Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 31, Issue 2
FEBRUARY 2023

Bandit Jr.

Regional stakes star delivers a colt

Divining Rod

Rewarding Maryland Breeders & Owners

Over a winter weekend at Laurel, Divining Rod sired two impressive winners of handsome purses

On Jan. 8, his 4-year-old gelding FIND FAITH broke from the outside 10 hole, and led wire-to-wire in only his second start, earning $30,360 for owners Robin Graham and Mary E. Jones, plus an additional $4,068 developer bonus. FIND FAITH was bred by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman from the Not For Love mare Manhattan Madam, who get a $8,136 Maryland Fund bonus for the maiden win.

On Jan. 7, his 3-year-old filly LIQUIDATOR earned $27,600 by winning her 3rd race in 7 starts for Not The 1 Stable, Inc., plus a $3,600 developer bonus. She has earned over $16,000 in breeder awards for Country Life Farm/Stone LLC, who bred her from the stakes-winning Peace Rules mare Missy Rules.

Divining Rod: The Mid-Atlantic's Leading 3rd-Crop Sire

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Tapit–Precious Kitten, by Catienus

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February 14, 2023

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Check our website for auction details and the season list, which is updated daily!

Visit www.vabred.org - the best source for Virginia breeding and racing news

For more information on the Virginia Breeders Fund or Virginia Stakes Program, please contact the Virginia Thoroughbred Association at (434) 977-3716

Virginia Breeders Fund

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

— Features —

Capuano clocks out of training career

Maryland-based trainer Dale Capuano retires after more than 40 years in the barn and 3,662 wins. The leading trainer in Maryland Million history looks back at his career, and some of the horses who defined it. By Vinnie Perrone. Page 26

'Unsung' Burns deserves attention

Honored by the Maryland Million with the Joe Kelly Unsung Hero Award last fall, Fran Burns helps horses and horse people any way she can. By Sandra McKee. Page 38

Trackside – Laurel Park

President and CEO of the NTRA, Tom Rooney holds down an important job in racing, but he gets a thrill out of breeding a stakes winner just like any breeder. By John Piassek. Page 46

Trackside – Parx Racing

New Jersey-bred Girl Trouble more than lives up to her $15,000 purchase price for Swilcan Stable, LC Racing and trainer Butch Reid. By Paul Halloran. Page 50

Trackside – Charles Town

Trainer Anthony Farrior makes a little history by dethroning perennial Charles Town leading trainer Jeff Runco in the 2022 standings. By Joe Clancy. Page 54

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On our cover: The first foal of 2023 reported to *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* is the first foal for 11-time stakes winner Anna's Bandit – a Maryland-bred colt by Tapit. See The Starting Gate section for more. *Photo by Barrie Reightler*

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BOURBON COURAGE

Lion Heart–Shine Forth, by Carson City

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G2-winning, multiple G1-placed millionaire. 63% winners/starters & 10% stakes horses include G2 **DOUBLE CROWN** ($572,465), **FORTHELUVOFBOURBON** ($573,120), **BOURBON BON BAY** (4 wins in 4 starts), **RAGING WHISKEY** (G3-placed), **MALIBU MOONSHINE** (3 wins in 3 starts at 2), plus 6 additional stakes-placed winners. $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

FORTUNE TICKET

Candy Ride (Arg)–Quiet Giant, by Giant's Causeway

FULL BROTHER TO LEADING SIRE GUN RUNNER

Second-crop sire **GUN RUNNER** has nearly twice the earners of his closest competitor in the 2022 sophomore sire race. Horse of the year earned over $15.9 million. Two-time winner Fortune Ticket is from a solid sire-producing Ned Evans family. First foals arrive in 2023. $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

HOLY BOSS

Street Boss–Holy Grace, by Holy Bull

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Sire of **VANCE SCHOLARS** ($262,040), **FIOLO BOSS, Al Loves Josie** ($198,855), **Sparkle Sprinkle**, **My Boss, Bosserati, Sol Y Boss, Sale Boss** from his first three crops to run. Blistering fast Saratoga G2 winner & MG1-placed. On the board in 18 of 22 starts, earning $771,527. 100+ Beyers in the G1 Breeders' Cup Sprint, G1 Vanderbilt, G1 King's Bishop, etc. Brilliant gate speed. $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

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Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Volume 31, Issue 2

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Post Time

HAPPY DAY. Pennsylvania-bred Breeders' Cup winner Caravel, the top-ranked Mid-Atlantic-bred of 2022, enjoys the last of her down time at Hunter Valley Farm in Kentucky before returning to trainer Brad Cox for a 2023 campaign. See the Starting Gate section for more on the final poll.

Sara Gordon

Go Figure

719 Million dollars generated for Maryland's Thoroughbred industry by casino gaming since 2010.

2 Consecutive Eclipse Awards won by *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* after writer Tom Law was honored for his 2022 coverage of the Preakness Stakes-G1.

3 Consecutive years Brad Cox has trained the top-ranked Mid-Atlantic-bred (Knicks Go in 2020 and 2021, Caravel in 2022).

11 Percent increase in United States Thoroughbred purses from 2021 to 2022. Horses competed for more than $1.31 billion in purses last year, up from $1.18 billion in 2021.

85 Days of live racing slated for Delaware Park in 2023. Racing starts May 24 and ends Oct. 28. The Delaware Handicap-G2, shorted to 1 3/16 miles from 1¼ miles headlines, July 8.

Say It Again

"Let me tell you about cable TV. It will revolutionize the industry. We'll have 60 channels available . . . I can even foresee the time when a horseplayer will be able to make bets by cable TV in his living room..."
Dr. Edgar Berman, speaking 50 years ago; the breeder of 1973 graded stakes winner Marian Bender was chairman of the board of Community Cable Vision of Maryland

"There are a whole lot of moving parts and our part is the farms, the breeding and the people who breed horses, raise horses and develop horses."
Maryland Horse Breeders Association's Cricket Goodall, on the mechanics of the Maryland Bred Fund

"He and Sam could really talk football."
West Virginia Breeders Classics' Carol Holden, about trainer Jim Casey (who died in January) and her WVBC co-founder and football Hall of Famer Sam Huff (who died in 2021)

"I remember when the barn was three or four horses. Now it's over 100."
Owner Jim Miller, on having horses with trainer Anthony Farrior (the Charles Town leader for 2022)

Names of the Month

Itchy Palms. The 3-year-old colt, who made his debut at Charles Town in January, is by Madefromlucky. To the superstitious (go on, admit it), an itchy palm means money is coming (right) or going (left). Hope you're lucky.

Elevenmonthslater. Breeder and co-owner Joel Dubow sent in this one, highlighting the time it takes a Thoroughbred mare to produce a foal after conception. Be patient everybody, especially this time of year. The 3-year-old Pennsylvania-bred filly, a daughter of Hoppertunity and Cruisenforlove, finished eighth at Parx Racing Jan. 10.

Sunsanddrinkinhand. The 4-year-old gelding, fifth at Parx in January, is by Keen Ice out of By the Shore.

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When are the odds in your favor like this?

With just TWO crops running:

3 out of 4 runners WIN

78% winners = Leading 2022 sophomore stallion in U.S.*

Nearly 1 in 5 runners are stakes horses

17% = 2nd leading 2022 sophomore stallion in U.S. to **GUN RUNNER***

$51,829 average earnings

2nd leading 2022 sophomore stallion in U.S.
to **GUN RUNNER***

**Among top-25 leading active sophomore stallions in U.S. for 2022*

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George Adams photo

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Anna's Bandit delivers colt

BARRIE B. REIGHTLER

Fuzzy ears . . . wide blaze . . . snip of white between his nostrils . . . the undivided attention of most people he meets . . . the 6-day-old colt has it all. Mix in his sire, Kentucky superstar Tapit, and his dam, Mid-Atlantic powerhouse Anna's Bandit, and . . . well, maybe the little guy knows he has it all.

Foaled Jan. 10 at Gina and Jerry Robb's No Guts No Glory Farm in Woodbine, Md., the colt is certainly doing his part.

"You know, maybe it's my imagination, but we've been doing this quite a few years now and he's the friendliest and smartest foal I've seen," said Gina by phone Jan. 16. "I don't know, it could be me, but I give them all 101-percent attention so you can't say it's that. He's something else."

Just in case he lives up to his potential, remember where and when you read this.

From his base at Gainesway Farm, 22-year-old Tapit is one of the world's most influential sires with 30 Grade 1 winners, 33 million-dollar yearlings and the earners of $193 million on the racetrack. His sons and daughters include four Belmont Stakes-G1 winners, 2022 Horse of the Year Flightline, champions Essential Quality and Unique Bella and on and on and on. As a racehorse, Tapit had regional connections – running for trainer Michael Dickinson, winning a Delaware Park maiden in his debut, adding the Laurel Futurity-G3 in his second start. He won the Wood Memorial-G1 in 2004 and was ninth behind Smarty Jones in the Kentucky Derby-G1.

Bred in West Virginia, Anna's Bandit is regional royalty. Bred by trainer Jerry Robb and racing for the No Guts No Glory Farm Robb owns with his wife Gina, the daughter of Great Notion won 17 races and earned $806,655 over six seasons. In 2019, she won nine of 11 starts including the rare double of the Cavada on West Virginia Breeders Classics night and the Maryland Million Distaff a week later. She won 11 stakes, placed in the Grade 3 Barbara Fritchie in 2020 and retired after three uncharacteristic losses in 2021. The Anna's Bandit story started when Robb spent $13,500 on a yearling at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic in 2007. The daughter of No Armistice, bred in Maryland by David Daniel (who paid $1,000 for her dam Court Tour), became stakes winner Onearmedbandit. Her first foal was Anna's Bandit, whose first foal made the cover of this magazine.

"I was really nervous because she had bagged up a month before and I was prepared and got the vets on board and was so nervous about this foal," said Gina. "I stayed up, watching, watching, watching and in the end it might have been the easiest foal I ever delivered. As usual, Anna was a perfectionist. She even did that perfect."

Anna's Bandit took motherhood seriously, though Gina says "20 peppermints and 10 carrots" are the required equipment when it comes to stall visits.

"She was pretty protective at first, but she's warming up to me now," said Gina. "You worry from the beginning about maiden mares, about everything. She's doing great, she's family."

The mating with Tapit adds nothing but power and Gina was quick to thank Maryland horseman Marshall Silverman for helping connect her with Gainesway Farm.

"We mostly send our mares to Maryland sires, but we just thought that maybe Anna should do something a little bit bigger," said Gina. "Marshall had a big hand in it and I feel pretty lucky and blessed that we were able to get her to Tapit. She deserves it."

The foal will get a chance to grow up before accompanying Anna's Bandit to Kentucky for a date with Darley stallion Frosted. Beyond that, the colt is probably headed to a sales ring.

"That sounds like a bummer, but that's the thing to do," said Gina. "He's going to be pretty valuable."

He already is.

– Joe Clancy

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GRASS...
It's not just for hippies anymore.

GALAWI (IRE)

Dubawi (IRE) – Galikova (FR), *by Galileo (IRE)* | *$2,000 LF*

- **Son of Breed-Shaping and World's Leading International Sire DUBAWI**
- **Out of a 1/2-Sister to the Hall of Famer GOLDIKOVA**
- **First Foals Arrive in 2023**

GALAWI
In only U.S. start, came from 5th at the top of the stretch and powered past rivals to win Belmont Maiden Special Weight. In debut, runner-up to **G3**-placed horse on all-weather; in second start, finished 3rd, a neck back to a stakes winner.

Out of GALIKOVA (FR)
Won 2YO debut. Won three Group stakes, including prestigious **G1** Prix Vermeille.

Out of 1/2-sister to GOLDIKOVA (IRE)
Member of National Museum of Racing's Hall of Fame, Breeders' Cup Mile-**G1** winner 2008, 2009, & 2010, **14-time G1 winner**, including nine against males, Two-time Eclipse Award winner, European Horse of the Year, twice European Champion Older Horse

By DUBAWI (IRE)
Top International and Breed-Shaping Sire. In 2022 alone: 7 G1 SWs, 28 GSWs, 45 total SWs, incl. 2022 Eclipse Award finalists **IN ITALIAN (GB)**, **MODERN GAMES (IRE)** and **REBEL'S ROMANCE (IRE)**, the latter two 2022 Breeders' Cup winners. Lifetime: 8 Champions, 52 G1 SWs, 146 Graded SWs, and 227 SWs.

DUBAWI, AN IMPRESSIVE SIRE OF SIRES

- **NIGHT OF THUNDER (IRE)** - the Top 4th-Crop European Sire by Earnings ($5.4+ million), BTHs (21), & GSHs (15), incl. 3-time 2022 **G1** SW **HIGHFIELD PRINCESS (FR)**
- **NEW BAY (GB)** - the Leading 3rd-Crop European Sire with 3 **G1** SWs in 2022, incl. Prix Rothschild-**G1** winner **SAFFRON BEACH (IRE)**
- **ZARAK (FR)** - the Leading 2nd-Crop European Sire with 10 GSHs, incl. Classic-placed **TIMES SQUARE (FR)** & **LA PARISIENNE (FR)**.

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Caravel tops 2022 regional Thoroughbred poll

A victory in the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-G1 propelled Pennsylvania-bred Caravel to the top in the final Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred/The Racing Biz poll for 2022.

From eight starts, the daughter of Mizzen Mast won five stakes at four tracks. The exclamation point came in the Turf Sprint as she joined Go for Wand, Tikkanen, Alphabet Soup, Finest City and Shamrock Rose on the list of Pennsylvania-bred Breeders' Cup winners. For the fifth consecutive year, the poll leader won a Breeders' Cup race.

"The depth and quality of Mid-Atlantic breeding programs really is incredible," said The Racing Biz owner and publisher Frank Vespe. "It's exciting to see these horses competing at the very top of the sport."

Caravel raced for breeder Lizzie Merryman in her first eight starts, winning two stakes as a 3-year-old at Presque Isle Downs in 2020 and placing third in the Hilltop at Pimlico.

"She showed a lot of promise from very early on." said Merryman. "When she was a baby, she was so good-looking and athletic. I had Danielle Hodsdon gallop her as a 2-year-old, and we'd talk about her every day. Danielle galloped [champion turf mare] Forever Together, and she'd tell me, 'This filly reminds of Forever Together.' "

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Caravel wins Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint at Keeneland.

As a 4-year-old in 2021, Caravel won three consecutive stakes. After the second, the Goldwood at Monmouth Park in June, Merryman sold a 75-percent interest to Bobby Flay, transferring the horse to trainer Graham Motion as part of the sale.

Caravel made one more start in Merryman's barn, earning the first graded stakes win (for horse and trainer) in the Caress-G3 at Saratoga. She made three starts for Motion, a third in the Highlander-G1 at Woodbine the best.

At the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky fall mixed sale in 2021, Caravel sold for $500,000 to Qatar Racing, Marc Detampel and Madaket Stables, who transferred her to Brad Cox.

Caravel started 2022 with a win in the Queen Stakes at Turfway Park March 19. Two starts later, she won the Intercontinental-G3 at Belmont Park June 10. Off the board in the Caress, Caravel bounced back to take the Smart and Fancy at Saratoga Aug. 20. In a return to Pennsylvania for the Presque Isle Downs Masters-G2 Sept. 19, she finished fourth, but rebounded to win the Franklin-G3 at Keeneland Oct. 16. Next came the Breeders' Cup upset.

"It was pretty incredible." said Merryman. "After Saratoga, she really blossomed, trained well, put on a lot of weight, but she hadn't yet shown she could hang with males. She proved it there. She ran great."

In December, Merryman received the John Deere Award from the Breeders' Cup, which emphasizes the contributions of breeders to the program.

"I can't help but think about how proud my parents [John and Kitty] would be." said Merryman. "My dad was so passionate about breeders and breeding, so this is all a tribute to him and what he instilled in all of us."

Merryman and her sister Katy Voss have each bred a Breeders' Cup winner, while the Merryman family includes siblings Ann and Edwin Merryman (each a breeder/owner/trainer) and a third generation that includes Ann's son Michael Merryman (a trainer), Lizzie's son McLane Hendriks (a trainer and amateur steeplechase jockey) and Edwin's son Louis (co-owner of the Anchor and Hope Farm stallion business).

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Shamrock's Proven Stallions

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10% black-type horses

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Wildcat Heir–Rainbow Pride
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— The Starting Gate —

AVERI LEVANTI

JIM MCCUE

SNYDER

The top four finished out with (from left) Just One Time, Fille d'Esprit and Fortheluvofbourbon.

Pennsylvania-breds took four of the first five spots. Grade 1 winner Just One Time finished second after leading most of the year. Five-time stakes winner Fortheluvofbourbon placed fourth, while stakes winner Morning Matcha finished fifth.

"Breeders all over the region are breeding outstanding horses," said Cricket Goodall, executive director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association, which publishes Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred. "It's important to reflect on and celebrate those achievements."

The top 10 included four Pennsylvania-breds, four Maryland-breds, and one each from West Virginia and Virginia.

Voters include media members and others in the Thoroughbred industry, with the poll restricted to horses who ran in 2022 and were bred in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, New Jersey, Delaware, and the Carolinas.

1. Caravel (PA), 5M Mizzen Mast—Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats; bred by Lizzie Merryman, trained by Brad Cox for Qatar Racing, Marc Detampel and Madaket Stables. Won G1 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint, G3 Intercontinental, G3 Franklin, Smart and Fancy, Queen.

2. Just One Time (PA), 4F Not This Time—Ida Clark, by Speightstown; bred by Warrior's Reward, trained by Brad Cox for Warrior's Reward LLC and Commonwealth New Era Racing. Won G1 Madison, G2 Inside Information, 3rd G1 Derby City Distaff.

3. Fille d'Esprit (MD), 6M Great Notion—Sweet Valor, by No Armistice; bred by Sweet Spirits Stables, trained by Jerry Robb for C J I Phoenix Group and No Guts No Glory Farm. Won Seeking the Pearl, Susquehanna Valley, Maryland Million Distaff, Politely, Conniver, 3rd G3 Barbara Fritchie.

4. Fortheluvofbourbon (PA), 5G Bourbon Courage—Nosubstitute-forluv, by Not For Love; bred by Hidden Acres 4-D Farm, trained by Michael Pino for Smart Angle. Won Maryland Million Sprint, Liberty Bell, Banjo Picker Sprint, Page McKenney.

5. Morning Matcha (PA), 3F Central Banker—Home Ice, by Iam the Iceman; bred by Crane Thoroughbred Services, trained by Robert E. Reid for LC Racing, Cash Is King and Gary Barber. Won Main Line, 2nd G1 Cotillion, 3rd G3 Delaware Oaks, G3 Comely.

6. Knicks Go (MD), 6H Paynter—Kosmo's Buddy, by Outflanker; bred by Angie Moore, trained by Brad Cox for Korea Racing Authority. 2nd G1 Pegasus World Cup.

7. Muad'dib (WV), 5G Fiber Sonde—Holy Pow Wow, by Indian Charlie; bred by John McKee, trained by Jeff Runco for David Raim. Won Sam Huff West Virginia Breeders Classic, Randy Funkhouser Memorial, 2nd G2 Charles Town Classic.

Also receiving votes: Double Crown, Mo Clare's, Eastern Bay, Chub Wagon, Beren, Swayin to and Fro, Whereshetoldmetogo, Local Motive, Leader of the Band, Luna Belle, Repo Rocks, Post Time, Free Sailin, Aloha West, Twisted Ride, Malibu Beauty, Cordmaker.

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CONNECT

Curlin - Bullville Belle, by Holy Bull

17 TWO-YEAR-OLD WINNERS IN 2022

2022 Stakes Winner Implicated

THE FACTOR

War Front - Greyciousness, by Miswaki

#3 GENERAL SIRE BY WINNERS IN 2022

2022 Grade 2 winner Bound For Nowhere, Highlander S. (G2)

UNION RAGS

Speightstown - Riviera Romper, by Tapit

FIVE GRADE 1 WINNERS

2022 Grade 1 winner Express Train, Santa Anita H. (G1)

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LANE'S END

Numbers Game

JERRY DZIERWINSKI

Some highlights from trainer Dale Capuano's career, which began with his first win with Who's Lucky at Bowie in 1981 and ended with his retirement Dec. 31, 2022 (see story on page 26):

3,662 lifetime training wins (22nd all-time).

34 seasons with $1 million or more in purse earnings.

31 Meet championships at Laurel Park and Pimlico Race Course.

15 Maryland Million wins (a record).

8 graded stakes wins.

Getting the Distance

Capuano developed talented horses with long racing careers. Some standouts who made all or most of their starts for the barn:

Horse	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Raced to age
Jolly Punch	94	18	16	11	$340,201	9
In the Curl*	85	26	24	14	749,891	9
One Tuff Oop	77	10	17	8	254,346	9
Greatsilverfleet**	72	17	19	13	625,517	11
Private Slip*	72	20	7	11	607,628	11
Rainbow Inthestorm	68	11	6	10	209,297	10
Silano*	67	20	13	12	693,524	8
Praise Heaven*	62	14	14	13	373,050	10
Shaviana	62	12	11	10	260,770	7
Heros Reward**	58	16	13	7	1,301,698	11
Wooden Stone*	58	14	15	16	405,874	9
Tricky Lion	58	10	7	10	319,113	8
Monster Sleeping*	55	10	10	10	537,119	7
Double Bunctious*	54	14	10	10	502,243	6
Along Came Jones*	54	9	9	11	264,826	6
Feels So Good	54	8	12	14	194,625	6
Fortunate Lance	53	11	10	8	186,499	7

**Stakes winner, **Graded stakes winner*

THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

HISA fix added to omnibus spending package: Frank Vespe looks at the package to fund U.S. government operations which included language to fix the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act, after it had been found unconstitutional.

Virginia-Certified Program to undergo changes: The residency program, which encourages people to send young horses to Virginia, will operate with new limitations this year, explains Vespe.

Barbosa an Eclipse finalist: Maryland-based Jeiron Barbosa, with maturity and confidence belying his 19 years, is one of three finalists for the Eclipse Award for top apprentice. Vespe reports.

Midlantic racing fertile ground for apprentice Eclipse Award: More than a dozen riders based in the Mid-Atlantic have won the Eclipse Award as top apprentice, making it fertile ground, indeed, writes Mike Valiante.

Photo Essay – Best of 2022: Photographer Allison Janezic took thousands of pictures of racing, horses, and people in 2022 and provided a photo essay of her favorites, and their stories.

New Year's hopes: With the new year kicking off, The Racing Biz has some new year's. . . well, call 'em wishes rather than resolutions, for Mid-Atlantic racing.

Backtracks – Giant killer J. O. Tobin: Jennifer Kelly tells the story of Maryland-bred J. O. Tobin, the first runner to defeat the immortal Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew and a champion in both England and America.

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EQUISTAR

Training and Breeding

Brody's Cause

Multiple Grade 1 Millionaire
Grade 1 sire
Leading Third Crop Sire in PA

From three crops to race, sire of G1 **KALYPSO** ($607,638) who sold at Keeneland Fall for $2.1 million, plus G3 **SITTIN ON GO** ($214,273), **BRODY'S STREAK**, **ENBARR**, G2-placed winners **Smiley Sobotka** and **Girther**, and 4 additional stakes-placed winners.

The classic Northern Dancer on the top, Mr. Prospector on the bottom cross, from the family of **CURE THE BLUES**.

$3,500 LF Registered PA stallion, BC nom.

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY–SWEET BREANNA, by Sahm

Smarty Jones

The region's only champion and dual classic winner at stud.

Earned over $7.6 million, the highest earner at stud in the region.

Leading sire in the Mid-Atlantic with lifetime AE/runner* of $91,619
*Northern Hemisphere, with more than 100 foals

Sire of 37 stakes winners, including three champions, 14 GSWs.

$3,500 LF Registered PA stallion, BC nom.

ELUSIVE QUALITY–I'LL GET ALONG, by Smile

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Stallion News

Coltimus Prime, a classic winner in two countries from the family of Ballade, has moved to Shamrock Farm in Woodbine, Md., to stand the 2023 season. Owned by a partnership, the 12-year-old stands for $1,500 live foal, with discounts available to approved mares foaling in Maryland.

A son of two-time Santa Anita Handicap-G1 winner Milwaukee Brew (a grandson of Icecapade through Wild Again), Coltimus Prime launched his career in Canada, was stakes-placed at 2, and won the Prince of Wales Stakes (the second leg of Canada's Triple Crown) at 3. He also finished second in the Ontario Derby-G3 and was a finalist in the division for a Sovereign Award.

Panama was his next designation, with former jockey Rene Douglas making the arrangements. At ages 6 and 7 Coltimus Prime made 13 starts and finished in the top three in 11 in that country, six in group company, five Group 1. He earned the title of champion imported older horse and champion stayer his first year in which he dominated the country's richest race, the 1⅜-mile Clasico Presidente de la Republica-G1. Between seasons he shipped to the U.S. and won the Invitational Cup Stakes at Gulfstream Park at 1¼ miles. He also won at 5½ furlongs and broke his maiden going 7 furlongs over Woodbine's synthetic track. He retired with a record of 38-8-7-5, won or placed in 10 stakes, and earned $644,125.

Out of the Distorted Humor mare Certainly Special, Coltimus Prime is a half-brother to stakes winner Crysta's Court and graded stakes-placed Narrow Escape. His female line traces to stakes winner Thaidah, a daughter of Vice Regent and Ballade and half-sister to Canadian Hall of Famer Glorious Song (dam of sires Singspiel-Ire and Rahy), champion and top sire Devil's Bag and graded stakes-winning leading sire Saint Ballado.

Coltimus Prime was test bred in 2020 and has two current 2-year-olds. He stands his first full season in 2023.

— Mid-Atlantic-bred Stakes Winners —

December 5 – January 9

Maryland-bred

COFFEEWITHCHRIS, dk.b./br.g., 2020, Ride On Curlin—Andiemac, by Outflanker. B-Thomas J. Rooney; O-John Salzman Jr., Fred Wasserloos & Anthony Geruso; T-John Salzman Jr. $100,000 Heft S, Laurel Park, Dec. 30.

MALIBU BEAUTY, b.m., 2018, Buffum—Slow and Steady, by Malibu Moon. B/O-ZWP Stable & Non Stop Stable; T-Gary Capuano. $100,000 Carousel S, Laurel Park, Dec. 30.

MALIBU MOONSHINE, ch.f., 2020, Bourbon Courage—Sunday in Malibu, by Malibu Moon. B-Dr. Ronald Harris Parker; O-Happy Face Racing Stable; T-Charlton Baker. $100,000 Gin Talking S, Laurel Park, Dec. 30.

MISS J MCKAY, b.m., 2017, Hangover Kid—Ballykiss, by Street Boss. B-Linda Oliff Rohleder; O-Oakwood Stables, Cheyenne Stable & Christophe Clement; T-Christophe Clement. $100,000 Abundantia S, Gulfstream Park, Dec. 24.

New Jersey-bred

GIRL TROUBLE, b.f., 2020, Fast Anna—Adorabella, by Ghostzapper. B-Gregory J. Kilka & Bright View Farm; O-Swilcan Stable & LC Racing; T-Robert E. Reid Jr. $75,000 Parx Futurity, Parx Racing, Jan. 3.

Pennsylvania-bred

NIMITZ CLASS, dk.b./br.c., 2019, Munnings—Five Diamonds, by Flatter. B-Arrowwood Farm; O-Tom Coulter; T-Bruce Kravets. $100,000 Robert T. Manfuso S, Laurel Park, Dec. 30.

South Carolina-bred

SWAYIN TO AND FRO, dk.b./br.f., 2019, Straight Talking—Jungle Lady, by Warrior's Reward. B-Franklin G. Smith Sr.; O-Baxter Racing Stable; T-Mario Serey Jr. $100,000 Willa On the Move S, Laurel, Dec. 30.

Virginia-bred

REPO ROCKS, dk.b./br.g., 2018, Tapiture—Hawaiian Love, by Not For Love. B-Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III; O-Double B Racing Stables; T-Jamie Ness. $75,000 Blitzen S, Parx, Jan. 4.

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PEACE AND JUSTICE

16.2 HH | War Front – Strike the Sky, by Smart Strike

Last 100 Starts	Wins	Winners
Peace And Justice	**26**	**18**
Weigelia	15	15
Uptowncharlybrown	12	10
Warrior's Reward	10	8
Wicked Strong	6	6

*STATS AS OF 1/13/2023

LIFETIME:

- Sire of **63%** **winners** from starters.
- Sire of **38%** **2YO winners** from starters.
- His runners have won or placed in nearly **40%** of their starts, with **average earnings** per starter of **$42,902.** (Over 8.5x Stud Fee)

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— Next Chapters —

BY MAGGIE KIMMITT

Talk Show Man

PHOTO BY MAGGIE KIMMITT

Take a poll of what Maryland is known for, and you'll get consistent responses. Steamed crabs. Orioles baseball. Ravens football. The Preakness. The Chesapeake Bay Bridge and the iconic Eastern Shore.

In that same vein, Talk Show Man is about as Maryland as a Thoroughbred gets.

Sire? Perennial state leader Great Notion.

Birthplace? Baltimore County's Willowdale Farm, since 1961 the family home of equine veterinarian Dr. Michael Harrison, whose silks the bay gelding carried on the racetrack for six seasons.

Namesake? Ron Smith, a fixture on Baltimore radio station WBAL-AM.

Trainer? Old-school local legend Hamilton Smith.

First win? At "The Big T," Marylanders' term of endearment for Timonium.

Big wins? Two renewals of the Maryland Million Turf, defeating revered Ben's Cat in 2014.

Out of the Haymaker mare Mark Me Special, Talk Show Man made 37 of 40 starts in Maryland. When he did cross state lines, it was only to head to Delaware Park, where he made his debut as a 3-year-old in July 2013.

Talk Show Man finished fifth behind Eighttofasttocatch in the 2013 Maryland Million Classic. But the horse's performance a year later still means the most to breeder/owner Harrison and his family.

"My wife Beth had a type of cancer called chronic lymphocytic leukemia, which she had since 2000," he began. "It's typically a disease that runs a course of 10-15 years on average. She had a couple crises that required aggressive therapy, and she was literally saved from the jaws of death 18 months prior to Talk Show Man's first Maryland Million Turf victory. It was determined the best course of action was a bone-marrow transplant which she had in early May. My son Justin was the donor. That October day at Laurel was the first time she was given permission by her doctors to go out in public. It was a big day for that reason, and then holy heck, he wins the race on top of it. And to beat the horses that he did, Ben's Cat and Roadhog were both accomplished champions. We had a lot of friends and family there, so we got a beautiful

win picture with a lot of folks who shared in that. The whole day was just magical and so special."

Beth Harrison died seven months later.

Talk Show Man had plenty of magic left. He came back in the same race four years later at age 8 and defeated another hometown hero (and son of Great Notion), Phlash Phelps.

After two subpar efforts early in 2019, Harrison had the horse back at Willowdale. He went to feed one morning and found his star with a puffy ankle.

"I scanned it, and he had injured the tendon," Harrison said. "It wasn't horrific, but was enough that if he injured himself out in the field like that, I was not about to put him back in training and ask him to perform at that level again. He was giving me signs that Father Time was catching up."

The horse retired to his birthplace with a record of 40-8-2-7 and $456,556 earned.

Now 13, Talk Show Man enjoys a second career as a competitor and ambassador for the breed. Rider Lindy Gutman never tires of singing his praises. . . and she has plenty to crow about. Gutman and her husband, Adam, are long-time clients of Harrison's who've also owned a few horses in partnership with him. As such, they followed Talk Show Man's career with special interest. When word filtered through that Harrison had retired the gelding, Gutman reached out.

Competing in the Retired Racehorse Project's Thoroughbred Makeover was a goal, and Talk Show Man seemed like the perfect partner.

"I saw Mike a few weeks after Talk Show Man was retired, so I asked him what he'd think about me taking him to the makeover," Gutman said.

Harrison's reply was, as expected, somewhat cautious.

"Well, I don't really know much about it, and he's the best horse I've ever had," is how Gutman remembered the reply. "My late wife Beth and I bred him together, so he's really special to me. I would never want to lose control of him."

Gutman didn't push. She found another prospect. A few months later, Harrison got back in touch. The text message went, "Let's talk about your plans for Talk Show Man. His leg looks great."

Gutman met with Harrison a few days later and they reached an agreement. While Harrison maintained formal ownership, Talk Show Man became, for all intents and purposes, Gutman's horse.

"I told Mike he could have the horse back after the makeover; I just really wanted to do that," she said. "But maybe 60 days into it, I said 'You'd have to pry this horse outta my hands with everything you have.' He saw a friend of mine, and she told him how much I loved the horse and that he'd have a hard time getting him back. Mike told her, 'She doesn't have to give him back.' "

Gutman's name is on the horse's Coggins test, but Harrison retains his Jockey Club papers.

"We sometimes joke about co-owning him. Generally, if it's a Thoroughbred show I enter Mike as the owner. For all the local shows and regular straight hunter stuff, I enter myself as his owner."

Talk Show Man hunts with Elkridge-Harford ("in a snaffle – I think it's important to say that") and works regularly with trainer Katie Fitzpatrick. The Retired Racehorse Project was canceled due to Covid in 2020, but they made the Mega Makeover in 2021 and placed in the top five among amateur show hunters and field hunters.

In September 2022, Talk Show Man competed in the Real Rider Cup as a mount for NYRA analyst Maggie Wolfendale Morley and America's Best Racing's Penelope Miller. The next morning, Gutman rode him in the Fair Hill Thoroughbred Show, winning the pleasure horse division and being named most suitable hunter for the competition.

She keeps Harrison in the loop.

"I'll show him a picture of us jumping a big fence, and he'll say, 'Oh, that's cool.' I'm jumping a 3-foot-6 coop, the biggest jump of my life on a horse that I trained and he owned. But I showed him a picture of us with the Oriole Bird at the (2022) Baltimore Christmas Parade, and he went nuts and said, 'You gotta send me that picture so I can send it to my kids!' "

Harrison's son Justin founded Farmacy Brewing on the Willowdale property. Among their offerings is Talk Show Man, "a hazy pale ale brewed with fresh ginger, dry-hopped with Nelson Sauvin and Kohatu. Bright passionfruit and white wine notes, zesty ginger, peach, lime."

Harrison and Gutman rave about the product and its distinctive can featuring a Sam Robinson painting of Talk Show Man before the 2014 Maryland Million.

"It's the best damn label I have ever seen on a beer . . . and the beer's good too!" Harrison said.

"I'm not a beer drinker, but I actually enjoy it," Gutman added before shifting gears back to the horse. "One of the reasons why I advocate for this horse so strongly is because I was so lucky to get him. He has totally changed my life. I've always wanted people to know that amateurs can ride Thoroughbreds. You just need to find the right horse."

Harrison agrees.

"Talk Show Man had a very good career. He did so many other amazing things and continues to do them. He's had a tremendous impact on Lindy's life and her equestrian pursuits. And that's what's so neat – what a horse can do for a person." ■

COLTIMUS PRIME

Dark Bay or Brown Horse, 2011

	Wild Again	Icecapade	Nearctic Shenanigans
		Bushel-n-Peck	*Khaled *Dama II
Milwaukee Brew Bay, 1997	Ask Anita	Wolf Power (SAf)	Flirting Around Pandora
		Epanoui	Val de l'Orne (Fr) Swalthee (Fr)
	Distorted Humor	Forty Niner	Mr. Prospector File
		Danzig's Beauty	Danzig Sweetest Chant
Certainly Special Bay, 2005	With Certainty	Broad Brush	Ack Ack Hay Patcher
		Irtifa (GB)	Lahib Thaidah

Dosage Profile: 3 6 7 0 0
Dosage Index: 3.57 Center of Distribution: +0.75

RACING RECORD

Age	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Won
2	3	1	1 (1)	0	$ 57,325
3	8	2 (1)	2 (1)	0	380,591
4	5	0	0	0	8,192
5	5	0	1	1	13,635
		(In U.S. and Panama)			
6	9	2 (2)	2	1 (1)	148,542
			(In Panama)		
7	8	3	1 (1)	3 (3)	35,840
	38	8 (3)	7 (3)	5 (4)	$644,125

At 2, won a 7 fur. maiden special at Woodbine (synthetic, by 8 lengths over Forest Breeze, Doughmaker, Moving Kisser, etc.); 2nd **Display S** (synthetic, by a neck to Jose Sea View, defeating Ami's Holiday, Danzig Storm, etc.).

At 3, won **PRINCE OF WALES S** (1⅜6 mi. in 1:54.58, by 3½ lengths over Lynx, Ami's Holiday, Smart Spree, Rhythm Blues, etc.) and an allowance at Woodbine (1⅛ mi., synthetic, by 2 lengths over Latin Piper, One Destiny, Alpha High, etc.); 2nd **Ontario Derby-G3** (synthetic, to Florida Won, defeating Ami's Holiday, Squeeze the King, Jose Sea View, etc.).

At 6, **champion imported older horse, champion stayer in Panama,** won **CLASICO PRESIDENTE DE LA REPUBLICA-G1** (1⅜ mi., by 4 lengths over Uxia P., Candy Sugar Lady, Torniquette, etc.); 3rd **Clasico Independencia-G1** (to Uxia P., Torniquette, defeating Tio Fabio, California Music, V.I.P. Zone, etc.). In U.S. won, **INVITATIONAL CUP S** (Gulfstream Park, 1¼ mi., by 2½ lengths over El Kurdo, Mishegas, Jade Master, etc.).

At 7, won three allowances at Presidente Remon (7 fur., by 11¾ lengths over Bodhisattva, Mar De Leva, El Parrandero, etc.; 1⅛6 mi., by 3½ lengths over Fray Angelico, Don Samy, etc.; 5½ fur., defeating Indy Eagle, Soy Jufravi, Telling Tony, etc.); 2nd **Clasico Marcos Justines Fernandez-G3** (to Red Carpet Prince, defeating Promise to Power, Rockin Awesome, etc.); 3rd **Clasico Presidente de la Republica-G1** (to Promise to Power, California Music, defeating El Tigre Mono-Pan, Red Carpet Prince, Mr. Meyer, etc.), **Clasico Indepencia-G1** (to California Music, Trincheto-Arg, defeating Red Carpet Prince, Macherano Mania, etc.), **Clasico Ano Nuevo-G1** (to Tiz Ardel, California Music, defeating Trincheto-Arg, Walk to Fame, Torniquette, etc.).

STUD RECORD

COLTIMUS PRIME sired a test crop in 2020. He stands his first full season in 2023.

MALE LINE

His sire, **MILWAUKEE BREW,** stakes winner of 8 races, $2,879,612, Santa Anita H-G1 twice, Californian S-G2, etc.

MILWAUKEE BREW sired 31 stakes winners, including:

MILWAUKEE APPEAL: Champion 3-year-old filly in Canada, 5 wins, $1,198,674, Woodbine Oaks, Star Shoot S, Ontario Lassie S, 2nd Alabama S-G1, etc.

GINGER BREW: Champion 3-year-old filly in Canada, 6 wins, $970,311, Woodbine Oaks, Calder Oaks, Belle Mahone S, Jammed Lovely S, 2nd Dance Smartly S-G2, Queen's Plate S, etc.

MILWAUKEE PRINCESS: Champion 3-year-old filly in Puerto Rico, 8 wins, $159,701, Clasico Dia de Las Madres-G2, etc.

AKHEEL: Champion 2 and 3-year-old colt in Saudi Arabia, 3 wins in 3 starts, $51,696, King Abdulaziz Cup-G1, National Guard Cup-G3. Leading sire.

DR. ZIC: 5 wins, $365,786, Madison S-G1, etc.

FEMALE LINE

CERTAINLY SPECIAL. Dam of 7 foals, 6 to race, all winners, including—

COLTIMUS PRIME (Milwaukee Brew). Champion.

CRYSTA'S COURT (Silent Name-Jpn). 3 wins at 2 and 3, $241,004, Victorian Queen S, 2nd Rainbow Connection S twice. Producer.

Narrow Escape (Sky Conqueror). 6 wins, 2 to 7, $181,572, 3rd Durham Cup S-G3.

Lowi Vene (Silent Name-Jpn). 3 wins at 3 and 4, $60,716.

With Certainty. 2 wins at 3, $52,400, 2nd Canterbury Park Oaks. Dam of 11 other foals, 8 to race, 6 winners, including—

Safety Valve. 9 wins, 3 to 9, $188,089, 2nd Henry S. Clark S. Set ntr.

Rise to Glory. 4 wins, 3 to 5, $117,724.

Nina Bernstein. Placed at 4 in Argentina. Dam of **Ninetta** (2nd Saturnino J. Unzue-G2, etc. in Argentina).

IRTIFA (GB). Winner at 2, $11,665 in England. Dam of 7 other foals, all to race, 6 winners, including—

Sayuri. Winner at 3 in France. Dam of **OCEAN AND BEYOND** (Nanoli Stud Pune Derby-G1, Indian Champion Cup-G1, etc. in India).

THAIDAH, by Vice Regent. 3 wins at 2 and 3, $57,901 in England and Ireland, City of York S, 2nd Fred Darling S-G3, etc. Dam of 16 other foals, 14 to race, 10 winners, including—

Andrea Dora. 4 wins at 2 and 3 in South Africa, 3rd St. Andrews Paddock S. Producer. Granddam of **PACIFIC BREEZE** (in South Africa).

Kismah (GB). 2 wins in 2 starts at 3, $30,681 in England. Dam of **Tahirah**. Granddam of **Louie de Palma** (2nd Richmond S-G2 in England).

Tawaaded (Ire). Winner at 3, $13,826 in England. Dam of **SHAKIS (IRE)** (7 wins, $860,532 in U.S., U.A.E. and France, Bernard Baruch H-G2 twice, once ncr, etc.), **Sahaat**. Granddam of **WINFROMWITHIN** (5 wins, $300,945 to 4, 2022, Columbia S-ncr, etc.), **Manasarova**.

Chocolat Chaud. Dam of **EMIN** (champion stayer in Spain).

BALLADE, by *Herbager. Winner at 2 and 3, $12,670. Half-sister to **SECRETO'S GLORY**, **VITE VIEW**, **Jan Murray** (sire), **Sweeping View**. Dam of 12 other foals, 9 to race, 8 winners, including—

GLORIOUS SONG. Horse of the year in Canada, champion older mare in Canada twice, champion older mare in U.S., 17 wins, 2 to 5, $1,004,534, Spinster S-G1, etc. Dam of **SINGSPIEL (IRE)** (champion grass horse in U.S., hwt. older horse in U.A.E., 9 wins, $5,952,825 in U.A.E., Japan, N.A., England and France, Dubai World Cup, Japan Cup-G1, Canadian International S-G1, Coronation Cup-G1, etc., leading sire), **RAHY** (6 wins, $343,386 in U.S. and England, Bel Air H-G2, etc., sire), **RAKEEN** (Allen Snijman S-G2, etc., in South Africa, sire), **Song of Freedom**, **Rivotious** (sire). Granddam of **MEZZO SOPRANO** (hwt. 3-year-old filly [11 to 14 fur.] in England, 4 wins, $410,166 in France, England and U.A.E., Prix Vermeille-G1, etc.), **DANON CHANTILLY** (3 wins, $2,051,960 in Japan, NHK Mile Cup-G1, etc., sire), **CAMPANOLOGIST** (11 wins, $1,691,040 in England, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Turkey and U.A.E., Gran Premio Jockey Club-G1, etc., sire), **EMIRATES TO DUBAI** (sire).

DEVIL'S BAG. Champion 2-year-old colt, 8 wins in 9 starts at 2 and 3, $445,860, Champagne S-G1, Laurel Futurity-G1, etc. Sire.

SAINT BALLADO. 4 wins at 3, $302,820, Arlington Classic S-G2, Sheridan S-G3. Leading sire.

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Son of 2-time Grade 1 Santa Anita Handicap Winner, Breeders' Cup Classic-Placed
and twice Leading Sire in Canada - **MILWAUKEE BREW**
BALLADE's direct female line, family of Horse of the Year **GLORIOUS SONG**
and leading sires **RAHY, DEVIL'S BAG, SAINT BALLADO**, **SINGSPIEL** etc.
Great outcross pedigree

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— From the editor —

BY JOE CLANCY

West Virginia's Casey leaves long legacy

There were times when his family tried to tell him the 30-40 mares James W. Casey sent to the breeding shed each year were a few too many. Maybe 15-20 made more sense, they'd say – futilely. No, Casey wasn't going to change his strategy.

And why would he?

Casey, who died Jan. 8 at 92, bred, raised, owned and trained some of the finest Thoroughbreds in his home state of West Virginia for decades. He trained Russell Road, who won 31 races and earned $2 million. Charitable Annuity won 15, earned $866,955. Homebred Greenway Court added 18 wins and another $485,195. As a trainer, he won 35 West Virginia Breeders Classics races. As owners, he, his late wife Eleanor and their Taylor Mountain Farm won 45. Casey trained the winner of the night's featured race nine times – Taylor Mountain (1989, 1990), Step Out Dancing (1998), Russell Road (2009, 2011, 2014), Charitable Annuity (2015, 2017), Castle Bound (2019). Casey-breds won the Classic eight times.

The Caseys raced their first horses in the 1960s, and bred, owned and trained for decades. Equibase credits Jim Casey with 1,232 wins as a trainer (since 1989). He tallied at least 20 wins a year for 33 years, reached a high of 67 in 2016. Eight times, his horses earned more than $1 million in a season. Most of that success came with homebreds foaled at Taylor Mountain.

And to think it was all a second act.

Born in Boyce, Va., in 1930, Casey graduated from Boyce Agricultural High School in 1947 and the College of William and Mary in 1951. After two years in the U.S. Army, he took a job as a teacher at James Wood High School in Winchester, Va. He stayed 32 years, coaching football, basketball and baseball, becoming the athletic director. He won district championships in basketball, had an undefeated team in football and was inducted into the James Wood Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 2000.

"I went to Handley, so James Wood was our cross-town rival," said Mark Russell, who met Casey in 1985 and later sent stable star Russell Road to the trainer. "We would go back and forth on that all the time. He truly loved coaching and teaching, had very successful teams and was good at it. For him to go from that phase, that success, where you sleep, eat and breathe it and then go into the horses and do as well as he did there is truly amazing when you think about it.

"I don't think it would have mattered, he would have been a success at whatever he wanted to do."

Casey's father, Dr. Joseph Casey, was a veterinarian, which surely helped foster an interest in horses as did Eleanor Casey's horse background. They bought broodmares in the late 1950s, won races as owners/breeders/trainers and landed the rich Tri-State Futurity with homebred Proud John at Shenandoah Downs in 1969.

"I was just a little boy then," said son Dr. James M. Casey, an equine veterinarian and trainer in Maryland. "All the added money, the nomination fees and things, went to the winner in those days and they got something like $40,000. That was a fair sum of money and that allowed them to buy some property and was a big boost."

The Caseys raised a family – another son John became a trainer and manages Taylor Mountain Farm in Charles Town. Daughter Ann won a Breeders Classics race as an owner. The current Taylor Mountain Farm is home to stallions Candygram, Denis of Cork and Juba. James W. Casey retired from teaching in 1986, and moved to horses full-time – riding the wave of higher purses and incentives for West Virginia-breds at Charles Town.

"He was probably the first one to realize the potential for him and for the Breeders Classics to do what they did," said Carol Holden, co-founder of the West Virginia Breeders Classics. "He went out and improved his stock, always had horses ready to run and was very helpful to us when we were getting started. Taylor Mountain was one of several farms the

Breeders Classics and the development fund had a lot to do with. That was important."

Simply a racing fan and semi-regular at Charles Town, Russell was mulling the idea of becoming an owner when he met with Casey in 1985.

"I knew something about the horse business, went to the races and played them, but to sit down and talk to him was an inspiration," Russell said. "To hear his passion and to hear him talk about it was the icing on the cake for me. He sold me on it."

Along came Russell Road, eventually. The son of Wheaton finished second in his debut in August 2008, then won six in a row. In a rare out-of-town race, Russell Road finished fifth in Aqueduct's Gotham Stakes-G3 in 2009, then went right back to winning. He finished that year with seven victories and piled up 31 wins (and 14 seconds) through 2016. With $2,001,586, he's second all-time among West Virginia-breds. The Russell-owned Charitable Annuity is ninth.

"I was fortunate to have Russell Road and fortunate to have Mr. Casey as a friend and a trainer," said Russell. "He had so many horses and got the maximum from them and Russell Road was no different. He was an equine athlete and a racehorse, and [Casey] was able to help guide us through the process and create the longevity we had with that horse."

Casey won 24 races as a trainer in 2022 and was at Charles Town pretty much every morning. He fell while at the track the morning of Jan. 6 and suffered a broken leg. He won a race while in the hospital that night (with Taylor Mountain homebred Missionary), had surgery and appeared to be recovering when he died Jan. 8. Eleanor Casey died under similar circumstances in 2005, when a loose a horse caused her to fall and break a hip at Charles Town. She was 74.

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The losses ended an era, but also served as an example.

"He enjoyed it – the horses, the people, the races – that was his day, going to the track every day until the very end, and my mother was at the racetrack the day she died too," said James M. Casey. "It's part of life, but it's still very sad. He was 92. I have to be happy that I had him as a father, he helped me become a veterinarian and a horse trainer myself. We were all very lucky."

Russell agreed.

"That morning ritual of discussing just anything from A to Z – horses or whatever – I'm going to miss him and I'm not alone," he said. "I'm so thankful and blessed to have known him for 37 years. He's going to be hard to replace. You know, we're really not going to. You don't replace a person like him."

No matter how many broodmares he wants to own. ■

The Finish Line

DALE CAPUANO PUTS WRAPS ON 42-YEAR TRAINING CAREER

By Vinnie Perrone

December 31, 2022, 3:38 p.m. Through the glass doors of Laurel Park's clubhouse into grayness, Dale Capuano beat a mundane path made novel and profound. Beneath a blue canopy, down concrete steps, he headed for the paddock and, beyond that, a world unknown.

To his left, a thickening ground fog carpeted the racetrack, dressed it in disguise as if nature teased the wonder. Forty-two years since he started, Dale Capuano had one last horse to saddle. Where was the fanfare, the news crew, the clutch of well-wishers? There, in a fitful drizzle too warm for the season, the trainer and his moment stood temporarily ignored.

Dale stopped to thumb a text message, eyeglasses cockeyed atop a ball cap, lenses speckled by the rain. He strode again briefly, then spoke without prompting: "Who leaves a barn with 35 horses and 14 yearlings in the pipeline?" The question confirmed that Dale, age 60, had reached the vocational finish line.

The paddock long had served as his examining room and study; in it, he scrutinized the racing Thoroughbred, gauging potential claims (and those to avoid) by inspecting legs and scrawling program notes. There, Dale cinched the girth on Dixie Drawl, gave Carlos Lopez a leg up, hugged paddock judge Mario Verge and affixed a period to his page-turning career. Or might that be a semi-colon?

Trainers of any age rarely retire with good health and a robust stable at full throttle; rarer do they cede it, reinforcements waiting, to an upstart nephew with no formal track record; rarer yet with every horse-owning client pledged to the transition. Dale's work, his word and his ways had engendered such loyalty when he told his backers that horse-training brother Gary's son, 29-year-old Phil Capuano, would captain the turn-key operation New Year's Day.

"I love trainin' the horses and that part, but I wasn't gonna train 'em until the day I die," Dale said after passing the baton. "At some point, I wanted to be in a position where I could retire and do somethin' else with my life. I didn't wanna stop because I was down and out, where my business had gone down with only a few horses, and I'm basically floundering."

Ferris Allen, a trainer five years longer than Dale, explained why he and his peers favor work over rest. "There aren't many Sandy Koufaxes," the onetime William & Mary second baseman said of the Dodgers left-hander who left baseball in his prime. Then the nub: "I loved goin' to the Louvre and lookin' at the Mona Lisa, and bein' there when Big Ben went off. But there ain't nothin' like winnin' a race."

Dale won 3,662 of them.

Before he departed, Dale cornered 89-year-old Hall of Famer King Leatherbury, the Maryland legend with training victories 64 years running. "It wasn't too long ago I was young and you were old," Dale told him. "Now I'm old and you're older."

Last September, a month before the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale at Timonium, Dale fortified the track-wide whispers by advising clients of his exit strategy. He'd done their shopping for years, but they needed to know that any new purchases would grow to function under Phil. If they sought someone else to buy and train for them, Dale said, he surely understood.

He added: "I gave 'em all the options, so everything was laid out ahead of time. Everyone stayed on, like it was business as usual. Nothin' changed."

JERRY DZIERWINSKI

He helped the continuity by reassuring Lou Ulman, Neil Glasser, Steve Newby – each more than 30 years a client – and other owners that he'd consult with Phil regularly, especially to begin, and make the 17-mile drive from home to Laurel when needed. Dale's hallmarks, truthfulness among them, built a sturdy bridge. "Phil's a lot like I am – a hard worker," he told them. "He's honest as the day is long, he's knowledgeable about horses, and he's particular about everything. He's really meticulous."

Many of the owners knew Phil from his days managing a three-barn, 30-horse string at Delaware Park for Gary (mostly) and Dale, and for his time assisting Dale at Laurel after Delaware's early November close. Phil said he hopes to harness inspirations from Gary's smaller, unchanging, high-quality barn that gave wings to 1997 Florida Derby/Wood Memorial winner Captain Bodgit, and Dale's larger, diverse, claim-fluid stable.

> "I gotta give all the credit to the owners . . . for them to have the confidence in me. I did have some doubts. Still do, just because of the expectations. There's pressure."
>
> *– Phil Capuano, on succeeding his uncle*

"Hopefully, I can be a little bit of both," Phil said of his horse-training influences. "But I still gotta be me."

Dale told his nephew how to handle the new responsibility: "This is your thing. You do it your way."

It was part torch-passing, part pep talk. And all Capuano.

"Let him know this is how I did A, B and C, and it's up to you to keep it the same, change it, tweak it, whatever you wanna do," Dale said. "It's his barn, not mine."

Ulman, the former Maryland Racing Commission chairman who moved his first horses to Dale in 1989, gave Phil a vote of confidence by buying alone or in partnership six of the 14 Dale took from the sale last fall.

"I'm very impressed with Phil," Ulman said. "I think he's got a great work ethic. He's learned a heck of a lot from both Dale and Gary. It's funny: People have said to me, 'But you're turning your horses over to a 29-year-old.' I'm like, 'I had Dale when he was 27.' "

Phil passed his first test. Ulman and Dale had scouted a possible $12,500 claim at Laurel in early January. Phil scanned the horse in the paddock and dialed Ulman, who recounted the exchange. "I don't know, Lou," Phil told him. "The horse's pastern just looks a little funny . . . and I'm just not that comfortable."

In the background, Ulman said, he heard a trainer (unnamed) tell a client by phone, "The horse looks OK. Let's go for it." Ulman related the advisory. Phil restated his position. They passed on a runner that faltered.

By the following Saturday, Phil had burnished his ledger. On Jan. 13, he sent Glasser's Thunderturtle to Charles Town and drove back with his first training victory. The next day, he dispatched Ulman's Imagine a Cure in a Laurel Park maiden claimer, the pacesetting chestnut battling to hold with a powerful ride by Jean Alvelo. Three hours later, Newby's Vance Scholars rallied to win a two-turn allowance.

On a wind-bitten January day between Laurel races, Phil appeared steeled to the challenge and moved by the fidelity. "I gotta give all the credit to the owners . . ." he said, voice catching somewhere between opportunity and expectation, "for them to have the confidence in me. I did have some doubts. Still do, just because of the expectations. There's pressure."

In Laurel's Barn 15, the fledgling trainer succeeded an uncle ranked 22nd all-time in training victories (three behind Dick Dutrow, 12 behind Bud Delp), who led the Maryland circuit eight times in yearly wins, managed 31 meet titles, a record 15 Maryland Million winners, a $20,000 claim turned Grade 2 millionaire, another midrange claim that made the Kentucky Derby and a near-20 percent win rate from 18,686 starts.

"When you start to talk to Dale about his statistics, none of that means anything to him," said friend and horse owner Bob Haynes, who shared in Dale's most golden claim, Heros Reward. "To him, those are just numbers on a piece of paper. Other people, they cherish that. What Dale cherished was integrity. He was honest to a fault. He had absolutely no ego. For 42 years he's done his work very quietly and let the numbers speak for themselves."

Through it all, Dale maintained the old-school methods he used on his first winner, Who's Lucky, 1981 at old Bowie Race Course. He left no detail unresolved, applied his craft with a winemaker's care and a surgeon's eye, the routine rarely deviating.

JERRY DZIERWINSKI

On the final day of his training career, Dale Capuano saddles Lost Weekend (second, beaten a nose) at Laurel Park Dec. 31.

"It was his life," Ulman said. "Not married, doesn't have children. Most other people couldn't devote the time that he does."

For Damon Dilodovico, the way to 800-plus training victories and a graded stakes score with Laki began under Dale on a tip from then-stablehand Mike Geralis. After three years as a U.S. Army communications specialist, Dilodovico said, he discovered peace in Dale's Bowie barn, and a military discipline through an exacting regimen.

"Dale was such a kind boss, and he was on top o' things," Dilodovico said. "Get there, he's checkin' horses before we train. He's checkin' 'em at the break. He's checkin' 'em when we're done. He went through the barn every day after training – we had 52 stalls there – and was touchin' every leg . . . He was so driven. It was impressive to watch."

The magic of pedigree. Nearly a century ago, Dale's great-grandfather, Philip Caruso, rode a horse through the neighborhoods of Washington, D.C., tied it to a lamppost at 8th and D streets NW and peddled flowers and produce from a pushcart. On weekends, he pinned a white carnation to his suit lapel, boarded bus or streetcar and took grandson Phil Capuano, Dale's and Gary's father, to whichever Maryland racetrack offered action.

The thrill conveyed, Phil Capuano the elder haunted the Edgewater riding stable in D.C., married Connie Russillo, spent $500 on a racehorse through a newspaper ad and hustled to keep the stable stable: He drove a taxi, installed aluminum siding, sold vacuum cleaners, insurance, and insulation, snapped bowling-alley photos. Phil and Connie bought a five-acre farm in Upper Marlboro, Md., and a few more horses.

The cab-driving job offered flexibility, which meant time to take his sons to the racetrack. There, Dale found his future. "From an early age," Gary said, "there was no part of him that wasn't gonna train horses."

Gary, a year younger, felt no such tug; he was too busy rebuilding lawn-mower engines and rewiring radios. In wood

shop at Largo High School, he made his father a gun cabinet, then turned an old blue Plymouth Fury into a bossy roadster – useful prep for a planned career in auto mechanics.

Dale, meanwhile, felt his engine rev with early work at Bob Beall's Bowie stable, home of crackerjack sprinter Dave's Friend. Dale would reach the barn before sunrise, leave for school, return to Beall's late afternoon and sometimes get home for supper. "I'm like, God bless ya," Gary told him, "but that ain't me."

Even then, Gary said, Dale was serious, thorough, meticulous. "I was out playin' or breakin' somethin' or fixin' somethin'. " Gary did his best to dodge the stables, but auto-repair work never accelerated. Somehow, he went to work for trainer Mert Bailes and saw horsepower in a new light.

"I look back at the ones we had that raced a lot – most of 'em were good, solid-boned horses . . . When they have good-boned legs, their body goes with it."

– Dale Capuano

The Capuanos' male line thus bears conformational symmetries. Phil, the patriarch, took a no-nonsense approach to work and became a plain-spoken Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association board member; son Dale followed in task and manner. Gary found the track without intending; so did son Phil, who'd worked at a restaurant, a library and a Best Buy after high school.

Phil was 21 and living at home in 2014 when Dad issued an ultimatum: Go to college, work full-time, find a new residence, or come work for me. Gary thought the final option least likely. Two weeks later he had a new employee, and the family a new generation of horseman.

Phil Capuano, the elder, bred and bought and trained some horses, the chocolate-colored Gary's Friend (Friend's Choice—Yemen's Mite, by Yemen) among his holdings. Dad asked Gary to train his namesake. Gary had no license but complied. In the summer of '82, Gary's Friend won Bowie's Playpen Stakes in Dale's name. The program trainer was 20, his brother 19.

By then, Phil Capuano the elder had bought Yemen's Mite and bred her to Silver Badge, a stakes-winning son of Poker. He named the colt Silano, raised him at home, ran him in Connie's name and gave him to Dale. The docile bay took the '86 Playpen in his second start, the Rollicking in his third and a half-dozen other stakes through his 8-year-old season. Silano raced 67 times, won 20, earned $693,524 and skewed the expectations of rookie groom Dilodovico. "He was the kindest horse in the barn," Dilodovico said of the first runner he ever rubbed.

Before long, he put a brush to In the Curl and Double Bunctious, each a multiple stakes winner of more than $500,000, and stakes-placed Shaviana ($260,770).

Come 1991, he and Geralis had the backing to co-train a stable of their own. "It was hard to leave," Dilodovico said. "I remember puttin' off givin' my two-week notice for a couple weeks. Dale just made it a good place to work. What an education. I could never repay him."

In his understated home in Dayton, Md., on 17 understated acres, Dale spent his sixth day post-career easing forward and looking back. In a cozy dining room, before a side table barely large enough for all the crystal mementoes he'd earned (with one more goblet on the way, a retirement gift from 1/ST Racing), he described a road ahead neither paved nor planned. He loves the sales; a stint as bloodstock agent might prove interesting. Maybe become a racing manager. Learn more about the stock market. Live less encumbered, the way non-racing people do.

Whatever awaits, he said he'd first help firm Phil's footing, and his own. He closed 2022 at 213 pounds, an all-time high, and vowed to use the empty days as remedy. At a gym in nearby Glenelg, on a 15-degree incline at 4 mph, he started walking the treadmill for an hour in the morning and another in the afternoon. Five days in, the scale read 208.

"When you start seein' progress, it makes you motivated," he said.

Dale being Dale, he'd purposefully prepped for these rigors in December by plotting a chart he kept in the basement – his own training schedule. His knees, he said, show no stress if he limits his movement to walking.

Knees he knows, and the corresponding issues that transcend skeletal structure. On this he explained, in vintage candor, his hands-on tactics that grew more challenging with time.

"The way that I liked to do it, we always worked hard on our horses' legs," he said. "A lotta legwork. Nowadays, you see

JIM MCCUE

JIM MCCUE

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Dale Capuano stable stars included (clockwise from top left): millionaire Heros Reward, 10-time stakes winner In the Curl, 20-race winner Silano (with an appreciative Dale).

In the early days, the Capuano racing family included (from left): Dale, sister Gina, mom Connie, dad Phil and brother Gary.

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people that don't even put a bandage on 'em and beat you to death. So it makes it harder to retain help because they can go to the next barn, where a guy does little, and you're gonna make 'em do a lot. And that is a big issue for someone like me. It makes it harder and harder to have the quality help that you want. I guess you don't blame a guy for sayin', 'I can go next door and work. I don't have to put 'em in ice when it's cold, I don't have to do all this stuff that you're makin' me do – bring 'em out and jog 'em every day.' No one really does that."

As he finished the line, an odd buzzing filled the room. On the floor, next to a silver chalice noting Heros Reward's Pennsylvania Governor's Cup heroics, a circular object escaped its housing and whirred across the hardwood to another room. Dale looked down. "One of those robot vacuums." He said his live-in girlfriend, acupuncturist and dressage rider Rebecca Douglass, must have programmed it. Then he proceeded as if never interrupted.

> "I put my hands on 'em every day. Every horse. So you have to find people that really buy into your system and wanna be part of it."
>
> *– Dale Capuano, about taking a hands-on approach to training horses*

"I put my hands on 'em every day. Every horse. So you have to find people that really buy into your system and wanna be part of it. And today, the young people, they're on their phones, there are games; why would they wanna get up early in the morning?

"Back in the Bowie days, even Laurel, we always had young people comin' that were either in college on break or in high school, walk horses and learn with horses. Now, for years, nobody. There'd be people waitin' at the stable gate to get in and see if they could get a job. No more. Those days are long gone."

Glasser, another evergreen owner, said Dale's uncompromising ways especially resonated: The long-retired developer, 91, appreciates the value of foundation. "His hard work and his honesty set him apart," Glasser said. "I don't think there's anybody at the track that works harder than he did. He was out there early in the morning. He checked every horse. Every race he was down at the paddock. His game was claiming, and he was good at it."

In the fall of '88, owner Randy Williams asked Dale to consider a $23,500 claim etched in mystery. The 2-year-old was by Cut Throat (GB), an English-raced son of Sharpen Up (GB) they knew nothing about. Neither had seen the colt's winning debut three weeks earlier at Turfway Park, but Dale liked his presence. They took him.

The following spring, after seconds in the Federico Tesio Stakes-G3, Cherry Hill Mile-G3 and Garden State Stakes-G2, Wind Splitter finished 11th in the Kentucky Derby-G1 off a roundabout trip, 8½ lengths behind the triumphant Sunday Silence. Wind Splitter won the Grade 3 Trenton Handicap in 1990, two ungraded stakes in '91 and $332,239 all told.

"That's the thing," Dale said. "I've had owners like that for years that would say, 'Let's take a shot on this one and that one, and if it doesn't pan out, that's not the end of the world.' You've gotta be willing to gamble to come up with things. So, over the years, I've taken odd-type horses like that."

The soliloquy led him straight to In the Curl (Shelter Half—Ocean Girl, by Rollicking), a tenacious female sprinter he claimed for $75,000 in March 1989, when the Maryland tracks offered such races for stakes-caliber horses and risk-scorning buyers.

"That was a gutsy claim," Dale said. "I'll never forget – track was a sea o' mud at Pimlico. Nick Rinaldi always came to the races. So I go up in the dining room. 'Mr. Rinaldi, the track's bad. Do you still wanna take this horse?' 'Yeah. Let's go ahead and take her.' So we take her. She wins. They cancel the races after that because of the track condition. How lucky was that that we got her?

"The next day she was pretty shaky. I was a little nervous. But we worked on her, and she came out of it. So somethin' in the racetrack stung her, and then the rest was history."

Her final record, 85-26-24-14, bespoke speed and endurance. In the Curl raced to age 9, won 10 stakes and earned 10 times her claiming price.

Where In the Curl prompted early angst, Heros Reward supplied lasting drama. Dale claimed the sturdy, vexing, marvelous enigma for $20,000 for Haynes and Jayne Marie Slysz in 2006. By Partner's Hero from the Caveat mare Lifes Passage, the gelding had won a $16,000 maiden claimer in his previous start and carried 25-1 odds the day of the claim, which did nothing to temper Dale's zeal. Racetrack and paddock angles consistently revealed clean legs and good bone.

Owner Lou Ulman (left) and jockey Jean Alvelo talk with young Phil Capuano, who won two races at Laurel Park Jan. 14.

Dale Capuano (right) joins his nephew in the winner's circle with Vance Scholars after a win Jan. 14.

JIM MCCUE (2)

Heros Reward's first race for the new barn brought disappointment, then understanding. He'd displaced his palate, an exertion-wrought condition that impairs breathing, had surgery to fix it. He resumed three months later, blinkers off, in a winnable $5,000 Delaware Park claimer he couldn't win.

Dale: "I'm like, 'You gotta be kidding me. How did this horse get beat?' I just knew this horse was better than this, and I really didn't wanna lose him."

Third in a $10,000 claimer, fifth for $15,000, Heros Reward confounded his connections with dirt-track underperformances. "He just trained too good not to get any better," Dale said. The devoted poker player had one more card to see. A green one.

Heros Reward sprouted, then grew, then blossomed on the grass. Runner-up (with trouble, at 61-1) in his first start on new footing, he won five of the next six, improving as he went, including the Baltimore City Turf Sprint on Preakness Day as the favorite. Before 2007 expired, he had seized the $500,000 Nearctic Stakes-G2 at Woodbine. A year later, he bobbed for the midstretch lead in the inaugural Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint at Santa Anita, finishing a close fifth after starting from the disadvantageous inside post in the field of 14. He raced eight seasons with Dale and resigned to Haynes's eight-acre Rob Ry Farm in Gaithersburg, Md., with $1,301,698 by his name, 16

Checking on a friend

Two months in a coma, Charlie Brown awoke in a Maryland hospital last March to fuzzy, taxing rediscovery. The day he first sat up (with help) in his pillow-propped bed, stood wobbly and shuffled jelly-legged to a chair to sit, he smiled at the sight of a close friend who'd baptized his son: Dale Capuano.

While Charlie dwelled in Covid-19 darkness, wife Trish told him, Dale had made many hour-long drives to the University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health Center in Bel Air to sit bedside and give her time to tend the family's Post Deposit farm or manage other needs.

"What he did for me and wife, not many people would do," Charlie said. "We had cows, pigs, chickens and layups to take care of. And he would stay with me for four or five hours."

Dale, the accomplished horse trainer who retired Jan. 1, spoke of the gestures with natural understatement: "Charlie was in bad shape, and he's always been a good friend. I went up when I could."

Charlie had worked as Dale's assistant some 30 years ago, following horse-training father Eddie Brown Jr. and maternal grandfather Donald Bradley, before leaving the racetrack and later becoming equine feed sales manager at The Mill of Bel Air. Dale's devotion, Charlie said, reaches well beyond horses.

"At the racetrack, people might see him as that steely kind of person," Charlie said. "Being a claiming trainer, you wind up with a lot of acquaintances and a very small handful of friends."

Charlie, 57, said he returned to The Mill part-time in November, his progress better mentally than physically: Neuropathy in his legs and feet affects strength and balance, even after two rehab stints. Still, he's improving.

"It was difficult, very depressing at times," Charlie said. "And that's where havin' Dale show up, bein' such a good friend, it was definitely uplifting to my therapy in getting better."

– Vinnie Perrone

victories, a Maryland-bred Horse of the Year title and seven state-bred divisional titles. He remains on the farm, Haynes said, at age 21.

"Heros Reward was a strong-boned horse," Dale said, "like a throwback." The comment nudged the conversation toward less embraceable trends. Yes, he said, the modern racing Thoroughbred lacks the stoutness of its generational predecessors, thus can't be trained as hard and raced as often. He remembers breezing Silano a mile in 1:38 and change before the Jennings Handicap, a race he won. "Nowadays," Dale said, "you just don't have horses that can do that."

He went on: "I look back at the ones we had that raced a lot – most of 'em were good, solid-boned horses . . . When they have good-boned legs, their body goes with it."

Today's less-durable runner, he implied, emphasizes the importance of a dependable racing surface, which cued a subject unavoidable: Moquist. The 3-year-old Nyquist filly, owned by Maury Povich's Mopo Stable, had a voracious stride and spotless record in the fall of 2021 as Dale prepped her for her stakes debut at Laurel.

At times throughout the year, Dale and other horsemen had complained of dirt-track inconsistencies; a major renovation the summer before, they said, had yielded only short-term improvements. Problems acknowledged, Laurel ceased racing from April to August of '21 as it made repairs. Not long thereafter, safety concerns resurfaced.

Moquist, meanwhile, seemed to glide through anything. After a sizzling debut at Timonium, she commanded three straight Laurel allowance sprints. She rose so fast and stirred such confidence that Dale uncharacteristically skipped a condition in an allowance race she won by daylight at 4-5. Word traveled of gawdy offers from eager buyers, but Povich held firm. Bred by Katy Voss and Bob Manfuso at Chanceland Farm, the filly Capuano had plucked as a $50,000 yearling had unquestioned talent and boundless upside as a half-sister to Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 winner Aloha West.

Dale thought of his star fillies – Prized Stamp, Kimbralata, Miss Mischief, Double Bunctious, Disco Barbie, In the Curl – and concluded that none could outrun Moquist. Belief met ambivalence: Moquist had to work to make the Safely Kept Stakes, but the racetrack sights and sounds bred caution.

"I watch the horses train every day, and I'm listenin' to how they're hittin' the ground, the noise and pounding," he said. "I'm not just listenin' to my own; I'm watchin' 'em all go by. So I do have a good idea. And then I'm not afraid to say, 'Hey, this is not right.' I call it as a I see it, like balls and strikes."

He related to management his observations. The track stayed open for training and racing.

As Moquist breezed toward the Safely Kept one Sunday morning, something snapped, her brilliant flame extinguished. Seven days later, Ulman's American Playboy took off in an allowance sprint and failed to survive it, the last of eight horses to die racing or training from Nov. 6 to Nov. 28. In early December, the track closed to address the issues.

"Makin' a phone call to the owners with the bad news is the worst part of the whole business by far," Dale said. "Makin' the call for Moquist was brutal."

As much as anything, the failure to address track condition irked Dale after the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act was enacted last July to apply national standards to a state-governed sport. However well-intentioned the legislation, Dale said, implementation fell short by prioritizing unnecessary vaccine requirements, medication and whip restrictions over racing-surface integrity.

HISA inequities, racetrack problems, the condition-book wrinkles that skew true racehorse values by essentially eliminating open claiming races "show you how things have changed," he said. He contends those issues alone didn't compel a retirement he'd contemplated well before, nor did they hinder it.

"In my eyes," Dale said, "it's better for me to go out when I wanted to go out, on my terms. And, you know, that's pretty much how I've done everything – on my terms."

Before he left, he said, he complimented track superintendent Chris Bosley on a Laurel dirt surface much improved. This was vintage Dale – unafraid to criticize, able to praise.

"The track, up until the time I left, was in really good shape," he said. "I told him, 'I wish I was always complimetin' ya, sayin' everything was great.' "

From there, Dale extended his 40-year run of ducking no reporter's question: Can you manage this financially, two years or more from Social Security eligibility? He smiled. "I'm pretty conservative, so if I decided to retire, I'm pretty sure I can make it 'til I die. If I run outta money, I'm back to work. I started walkin' hots, and I'll end up walkin' hots, right?"

Bob Haynes, owner of Heros Reward, laughed at the telling. "Dale's first winner, he still has some of that money in his savings account. So, financially, he's in great shape. He's a young 60. You see it all the time in sports: People don't know when they should call it a day. And he called it a day on top. Now he gets a chance to live."

January 1, 2023, 3:45 a.m. No alarm in play, Dale awoke 15 minutes before his custom. The morning darkness and its relentless call to action had lost its voice. In the restful quiet of a strange new day, he read awhile, killed the light and went back to sleep. ■

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2 **Weigelia** *$264,563 (1)*
3 **Warrior's Reward** *$231,224 (1)*
4 **Brody's Cause** *$220,103 (0)*
5 **Winchill** *$194,404 (1)*
6 **Peace and Justice** *$178,838 (1)*
7 **Wicked Strong** *$147,699 (1)*
8 **Eastwood** *$136,541 (0)*
9 **Well Spelled** *$118,917 (0)*
10 **Il Villano** *$76,520 (1)*

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by earnings (BTHs)

1 **Uptowncharlybrown** *$475,394 (4)*
2 **Weigelia** *$264,563 (1)*
3 **Warrior's Reward** *$231,224 (1)*
4 **Brody's Cause** *$220,103 (0)*
5 **Winchill** *$194,404 (1)*
6 **Peace and Justice** *$178,838 (1)*
7 **Wicked Strong** *$147,699 (1)*
8 **Eastwood** *$136,541 (0)*
9 **Well Spelled** *$118,917 (0)*
10 **Il Villano** *$76,520 (1)*

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Sing Out Loud

HONORED WITH KELLY AWARD, BURNS LIVES TO HELP HORSES

By Sandra McKee

Combating the worst things in life sometimes brings out the nicest people.

Take Fran Burns, who grew up on a beautiful, serene homestead called Happy Hopeful Farm, a 200-acre horse property on West Padonia Road in Cockeysville, Md.

The name turned out to be fitting, as Burns, 64, matured into a happy, hopeful person when it comes to the future of Thoroughbreds and, perhaps, any animal in need.

Her efforts recently earned her the Joe Kelly Unsung Hero Award from the Maryland Million. Many who know Burns will think of her work for the Maryland Jockey Club, where for the last 12 years she has led and developed the Sunrise Backstretch tours during Preakness week, expanding the program to the Timonium Fairgrounds during the Maryland State Fair. She also raises money for MidAtlantic Horse Rescue, which gives racehorses second careers.

What many may not know is that Burns actually saves the lives of horses.

"If there's a horse in a situation and I get a phone call, I network through my people to try and get the information out. Sometimes I'm able to secure the horse – and sometimes I'm not. Every time I get one, I celebrate like I've gotten 10, because there seem to be so few victories."

Part of being unsung is being unknown. And Fran Burns may be one of Maryland's busiest and most unidentified rescuers of horses.

Single, she lives with her rescued band – cats Spuds and Princess Grace Kelly Burns of Monkton, and horses Dustin's Dreamer and Gracon d'Or.

"They are my kids," she says.

Normally relaxed and easygoing, on this day, as she waits for a visitor at her 11-acre Boxwood Farm in Baltimore County, a boutique retirement home for horses in need, she is a little worried. Instead of talking about others in the industry, she will be talking about herself.

"I'm used to being the one behind the scenes or nominating everybody else," she explains later. "So, it's overwhelming to me, and I get a little worried, because some of the stuff I do, it's very much behind the scenes. The people who know, know [what I do] and I can never say who they are."

Many things to know

But members of the local racing industry are happy to gush about the Fran Burns they do know.

"I think she is the single best ambassador of racing that there is," says Mike Pons, co-owner of Country Life Farm, Maryland's oldest breeding farm, and a director on the Maryland Million board. "She's knocking down barriers for people. She is expanding our audience. She can go comfortably from hosting a high-end reception, to being in jeans in a shedrow. She exudes the portable skill of kindness. Not everyone can do that."

And, continues Pons, it makes her the perfect person to be honored as an unsung hero.

Pons says all this while not knowing what Burns considers her most important contribution: saving horses from slaughter.

"I didn't know that," Pons admits. "But she's very intuitive and smart and someone you can trust."

FRAN BURNS AT BOXWOOD FARM WITH HER RETIREES.

BARRIE B. REIGHTLER

"I thought there would be five or seven people there early on a rainy morning. But there were 50 or 70."

– Mike Pons, about a Timonium backstretch tour

Fran started Timonium backside tours at the Maryland State Fair a few years back. Support from horsemen has been huge. Here Kieron Magee introduces some young ladies to one of the day's runners.

Karin De Francis, a consultant to the Maryland Jockey Club and a longtime board member of the Maryland Horsemen's Assistance Fund, who with Bev Strauss, executive director of MidAtlantic Horse Rescue, nominated Burns for the award, says, "There were a lot of reasons to vote for Fran."

On the nomination forms, De Francis and Strauss point to the Sunrise Backstretch tours during Preakness week, the expansion of that program to Timonium and to Burns' work on founding the Thoroughbred Alliance Show Series in Maryland with Sue Smith, of the CANTER Pennsylvania horse rescue, Strauss and the MJC's Georganne Hale. That series still exists, though downsized to just two events each year.

The Sunrise tours at Pimlico and the tours at the state fair, which she began four years ago, are important to her. And she keeps working on improving both.

"I changed the tours completely, to make them more interactive," Burns says. "I wanted people to connect with the animals. I wanted people to connect with the sport. I wanted the kids touching these animals. I wanted to see the sparks."

She's also added visits to the starting gate and brought trainers into the tours.

"In the beginning, they were really standoffish to our groups," Burns says. "Then [California-based trainer] Doug O'Neill showed up. When he set foot at Pimlico, everything changed. All of our guests had full access to him and his staff. We had full access to [Kentucky Derby winners] I'll Have Another and Nyquist. He was a real game-changer for the tours, because as time went on other trainers caught on."

The 6 a.m. tours now attract more than Preakness guests. Groups of young people, including Roland Park Country School students, Girl Scouts and 4-H members take part every year.

"Those kids are all the future of our sport," Burns says. "And then, there are the Arlington Elementary School kids, who are, without a doubt, very special to me. They really look forward to these tours – 200 kids on Tuesday, usually, and 200 on Wednesday. Elementary school and middle school, right across the street.

"They walk right across the street and one of the kids told me they thought [Pimlico] was a circus all these years before they came over. They didn't know what it was. And they're from the neighborhood."

She gives them tours at 9:30, as she does for former Maryland jockey turned commercial real-estate executive Charlie Fenwick III, who brings "bunches of his associates and their kids."

Last year, she further enriched the tours by adding horse breeder JoAnn Hayden; Old Friends aftercare farm founder Michael Blowen; Maryland Racing Commission chairperson Michael Algeo; and track announcer Dave Rodman.

Pons touts Burns for expanding the tour at Timonium last year.

One rainy day last summer, he went to the fair to see what he had been hearing about, to see what she was doing. Burns had set up a program where fair visitors could meet horses up close, take part in a Q&A with an assistant starter – and any other interesting horse people she could find – visit the grandstand, barns and the track kitchen.

"I thought there would be five or seven people there early on a rainy morning," Pons says. "But there were 50 or 70. Some were families out for the fair and some in the crowd were people in racing who knew as much about the sport as the people being interviewed.

"It turned into a back and forth with the audience. People were having so much fun. Little kids were laughing. It was like being at the *Today Show* on television. I wouldn't have anticipated that.

"But it is exactly what this sport needs," he says. "As I said, she's very intuitive and smart and can think past the next step. I wish the MJC could find more for her to do."

Then Pons says, "I wonder what her background is?"

Many do.

Wanting to be Oprah

Growing up, Burns went to Garrison Forest School in Owings Mills, Md., and then on to the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She majored in broadcast journalism and dreamed of taking Oprah Winfrey's job.

"I didn't get that job," she says wryly. "I ended up in radio sales for 20 years, working for Hearst, Infinity Broadcasting and CBS. My first job was at WFBR radio and I worked for WLIF and 98 Rock."

The job, the career, all of it was unexpected, as she found herself selling advertisements for the Baltimore Orioles and Baltimore Blast soccer team, which in the early 1980s was huge. The indoor soccer team played to sold-out arenas and drew as much media attention as those Orioles.

"I was even a Blast season ticket holder," she remembers. "We had a lot of really cool things to sell. Radio personality Johnny Walker, broadcaster Charley Eckman, known as Coach. We used to call Laurel racetrack Lovely Laur-el. He used to say to me, 'Hey, Tar Heel! You want to go to Lovely Laur-el today? I'd say, 'No, thank you, Mr. Eckman.' Those were different times."

Burns did well in advertising, from cold calls and to a big Hechinger's hardware stores' national account.

"It was a very difficult industry because you don't get paid for showing up," she remembers. "You only get paid for what you sell. I worked my way up from Hechinger's to where I had McDonald's and all the Coke brands. I had Budweiser."

Around 2006 she retired as territorial representative for Dentsply International. She says she couldn't be doing half the things she does now if not for her UNC education and her work in advertising. She learned to give speeches, provide leadership and inspire people.

She also learned how to join forces and network to get things done, like putting video programs together and buying billboards.

Meeting Boxwood's residents

As you come to Boxwood and proceed down the driveway, you pass a yard filled with slumbering flower beds that promise a beautiful scene come spring and summer. Of course, you don't know exactly how special these gardens are to Burns until much later, when she tells you.

"Everything I planted came from my old farm on Padonia Road," she says. "I love my flowers. I moved everything over here when I sold it. And now I work and I redo beds. I have my grandmother's lilies of the valley. I have my sister's hyacinths. I have my great-grandparents' peonies from their dairy farm – which is now the Valley Country Club in Lutherville. So these peonies are over 100 years old."

Farther down the lane, you come to her other love. If you are lucky and arrive near feeding time, you will see five eager horses, in various stages of disarray, anticipating dinner. They have been busy playing, their manes mussed, their bodies splotched or covered in dirt, having enjoyed a day of just being retirees.

Among them is Dustin's Dreamer, an off-track Thoroughbred never fast enough to enter a race and who was headed to slaughter.

"Yes, Dreamer was the biggest loser, too slow to race, but I turned him into a champion show horse," she says of the now 21-year-old she owns. "It was my first foray into rescuing a horse from a difficult situation."

She found him after she retired, when she was working with Angel Acres Horse Haven Rescue in Pennsylvania in the mid-to-late 2000s. There, she helped fundraise, paid to put up billboards across the country and promoted their stop-slaughter website. All of it, basically, was designed to tell people slaughter is real and to give the public facts.

BARRIE B. REIGHTLER (2)

The main house at Boxwood hints at its true glory during the growing season.

The barn complex at Boxwood boasts five stalls and a separate building for hay, plus a convenient one-time riding ring Burns uses for bad weather turnout.

She bought Dreamer (officially Pennsylvania-bred Token Gesture) from an exercise rider at Pimlico, who had managed to free the horse from his circumstance by paying a board bill.

"So I bought Dreamer and tried to turn this little racehorse into something going to the horse shows, it was good," she says. "A lot of people wouldn't speak to me because you didn't talk about horse slaughter then. It was a no-no, and here I was saying this horse was on his way out, and he was on his way out."

With the help of a few friends and her background in advertising, Burns made a video – wrote it, produced it, recorded it – documenting Dreamer's life from the track to his rise on the show circuit. She put it on Facebook and eventually took it to Washington, to Congress, to tell the world that horses needed help.

They still do.

Burns also owns Garcon d'Or, 20. The son of Private Terms, purchased by Strauss out of a kill pen about eight years ago at New Holland, Pa., won four races and earned $40,000 racing mainly in Florida. Burns rode him as a pleasure horse until she retired him.

She doesn't own all the horses here. Dubya, a 27-year-old Warmblood, belongs to Michael Sponseller, and was ridden by his late wife, Liz, who died of cancer in 2021. Dubya, her favorite horse, was named the Maryland Horse Show Association's Hunter Horse of the Year in 2007 and the U.S. Equestrian Foundation's Zone 3 Horse of the Year in 2005, 2006 and 2007. When Liz Sponseller's family (Brinkley) was inducted to the Maryland Horse Show Association Hall of Fame in 2016, Burns made sure Dubya was present by having a life-sized poster of him made and transported to the ceremony.

A long history

Back in Burns' office, surrounded by photos of her childhood home and family members, you learn horses, like her flowers, were always a big part of her life.

Her great-grandfather, John M. Dennis, belonged to the Elkridge-Harford Hunt Club. She says he and her mother saw Seabiscuit run. He was friends with Sam Riddle, who owned Man o' War and War Admiral. Dennis was also president of the Maryland State Fair. Burns is now on the fair's board of directors, working on numerous committees.

"There's a lot of horse background with our family," she says.

Burns rode and showed horses growing up and resumed once she returned from college.

"And, of course, we'd go to the Timonium races, which then had an extended season, every year, and watch the races through the fence with our mom," she says of a favorite youthful memory.

Her sister, Hellen Burns Smyth, was a successful equestrian. Until her death in 1997 at age 47, she traveled, showing horses across the country.

"I couldn't do that, because I had a full-time job," says Fran, who established two awards at the Maryland State Fair in memory of her sister. The Hellen Burns Smyth Fitting and Showing Award encourages children to learn about horsemanship.

De Francis doesn't know how many horses and people Burns has helped, but speculates it has been in the thousands.

Burns manages the Thoroughbred Alliance Show Series Facebook page and updates more than 2,400 followers on every Thoroughbred show she can find; steers the Sunrise tours that have reached thousands in a dozen years; and communicates with a 100-plus horse email group to which she sends out a monthly newsletter with educational, medical and other news.

As for the popularity of the award Burns has established in the name of her sister, De Francis says the show secretary told her the youth horsemanship/showmanship class "had the largest attendance that could be recalled in more than 30 years."

De Francis, who says she knew of Burns for years, didn't meet her until 2017, when looking for a retirement place for her own pensioner, Karin's Clyde.

"Clyde was as dear to me as a member of my human family," De Francis says of the eight-time winner campaigned by her family. "He was a gift from my father as a weanling in the '80s. He needed a place for what turned out to be a couple of years and Fran welcomed him to Boxwood with the rest of her boys. It was terrific. It was a double bonus for me; Clyde found a wonderful soft-landing place due to the great system in place there, and Fran and I have been close friends ever since."

Besides running her retirement farm, Burns works for Canter for a Cause each year and, De Francis says, "quietly networks/assists many Thoroughbreds" that find themselves in difficult circumstances.

"She's devoted to the mission," De Francis says.

So much so that when Burns isn't doing all those things, she still comes up with ways to raise money for the care of basically destitute horses, and raises awareness in, around and beyond the industry of their needs.

"I have a tendency to call people and say, 'I have a crazy idea,' " says Burns, recalling she had done just that when a horse named Food and Wine needed help.

Chef's Expressions, the catering arm of The Manor Tavern, has an annual five-course wine dinner fundraiser. She asked Jerry Edwards, the group's general manager, about speaking to the group about the horse.

Edwards was happy to include Burns in the program, which assisted another horse – Country Life Farm-bred Black Hope – in need of help in Puerto Rico. The funds helped get Black Hope into the care of MidAtlantic Horse Rescue.

"I make those calls a lot," she says. "Some people take it and some don't. I try very hard to go to mainstream events because we need to expand our reach.

> "She's devoted to the mission."
>
> *– Karin De Francis, about Fran Burns and giving Thoroughbreds a place after racing*

"We have made a lot of progress in aftercare programs and in the fight against horse slaughter," says the quiet activist, who singled out the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance and its operations consultant Stacie Clark. "They are doing wonders, but horses are still shipping daily to Mexico, being slaughtered. I spend my time as boots on the ground. I work one-by-one to help assist horses – not just Thoroughbreds – as best I can. I try not to get too sad about the losses, but there are so many."

In 2006, the last year horses were killed in slaughterhouses in the United States, approximately 104,000 died, according to a 2021 report by the ASPCA. Today, says the organization, horses are still being shipped for slaughter to Canada and Mexico. In 2021, the number exceeded 24,000.

So close it's hard to see

If her parents could see her now, they'd know what a wonderful job they did educating her about horses: teaching her how to care for them, how to ride and show them. How to love them.

They inadvertently put down the building blocks for a little, horse-crazy girl to grow into a behind-the-scenes hero in the fight against horse abuse.

"She really is selfless," De Francis says. "She's a very humble, under-the-radar person who wants to stay there. She really doesn't look to be recognized. That's refreshing. She truly wants to be 'Just Fran' so she can do the best job she can to help these horses."

Burns now calls her work saving horses her "biggest, most satisfying, unpaid job."

But she couldn't bring herself to believe that some horse people would wring all they could out of the animals they trained and/or owned and then sell their once beautiful moneymakers to slaughterhouses.

She just couldn't believe it, not even after reading a 1980s series of articles on the subject she now calls "amazing" by then-Baltimore *Evening Sun* racing writer Ross Peddicord.

"It was so unexpected, overwhelming, to receive these accolades from all these incredible people in racing. I think that's really the icing on the cake. But tomorrow's another day. There's always another horse or pony to be saved."

– Fran Burns, about the Joe Kelly Award

BARRIE B. REIGHTLER

Fran Burns and 21-year-old Dreamer, her first foray into rescuing Thoroughbreds.

"I read those articles and I never forgot them, but I never really thought it was real," she says.

It wasn't until years later, listening to her veterinarian, Dr. Cooper Williams, and her then-barn manager, Wendy Hannum, talking about the subject, that it became clear that horse slaughter was indeed real.

"It just didn't hit me until then," she says. "My thought had been, 'How could anyone do that to a horse?' I don't know how those people sleep at night."

Once reality set in, Burns' next thought was, "Maybe I get one of these Thoroughbreds and see what I can do with it and talk to people about horse slaughter."

Dreams? What's next?

As you walk out of the house and head for the barn and the horses, Burns wants to make sure you know who she is, beyond the things she's accomplished.

"I'm just Fran," she says for about the 10th time that afternoon. "That's all I am. I am not anybody famous or fancy. Just Fran. That's really important to me. I do this with the horses because I'm passionate about it and I like to give back."

It seems she is always trying to give back, even when she is just doing things that are supposed to be relaxing and fun.

She loves Maryland history, and why not? She grew up hearing about her family's past. In mid-December she met with Gov. Larry Hogan at the State House in Annapolis to see a portrait of her great-great-great-great-great-grandfather.

"He was the first elected governor of Maryland," Burns says. "Thomas Johnson. My mom taught my late sister and me about our family history and I find it fascinating."

It is part of what leads her to poking around in antique stores and going to auctions. She buys trophies, bridles, stuff of interest to her or to people she knows. The trophies get returned to the organizations from which they originated, and Burns gives small treasures to those she knows might appreciate them. She tries, always, to find a way to share what she finds.

"It's sad to me to see equine treasures lost," she says, and she might be talking about so many racehorses she's cried over losing.

She pauses.

"You've asked me what will be the icing on the cake?" she says. "A few weeks ago, I thought I'd win Power Ball and buy MidAtlantic Rescue another farm. That didn't work out. Now, honestly, I think the icing on the cake is this award. It was so unexpected, overwhelming, to receive these accolades from all these incredible people in racing. I think that's really the icing on the cake. But tomorrow's another day. There's always another horse or pony to be saved."

Will having more people recognize her make a difference? Burns has thought about that.

"I am nervous about it," she says. "But if only one person – and I hope it's a young girl – sees this and decides they want to do something to save horses, it will be worth it." ■

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Brewing up a Win

COFFEEWITHCHRIS RIDES MARYLAND ROOTS TO STAKES SUCCESS

By John Piassek

The roots of a coffee arabica and a coffee robusta plant can grow anywhere from one to three feet into the ground. The roots of Coffeewithchris, the Maryland-bred winner of the Heft Stakes at Laurel Park Dec. 30, go far deeper. His pedigree traces to multiple generations of mares bred at one of Maryland's most venerable farms, by one of racing's most notable families.

Tom Rooney is the president and CEO of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, as well as a board member of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association. He served in the United States House of Representatives, representing two Florida districts from 2009-19. His family goes back nearly a century in racing. His grandfather, Art, is best known for founding the Pittsburgh Steelers, but the Rooneys also operated the Palm Beach Kennel Club Greyhound track in Florida, along with Liberty Bell Park in Pennsylvania, Green Mountain racetrack in Vermont and Yonkers Raceway in New York.

In 1948, Art was inspired to establish a farm in Maryland while driving through the state.

"There were a lot of tracks in Maryland, and there weren't any in the Pittsburgh area. He'd drive from Pittsburgh to Baltimore a lot, because my dad [Pat] and his brother John went to college at Mount St. Mary's," said Tom Rooney. "It was on the way, and he wanted to start his own farm, so he thought it was a good location."

In the ensuing decades, Woodbine's Shamrock Farm has served as a facility for breeding, foaling, boarding, lay-ups and sales prep. Shamrock now stands four stallions: Rainbow Heir, Outflanker, Barbados and new arrival Coltimus Prime.

Rooney takes pride in the operation. "It's been in my family for generations, and whenever I'm at Shamrock, I definitely sense my grandfather's presence more than anywhere else. It's something that I hope goes on for a long time."

Jim Steele has been the farm manager at Shamrock since 1977, when he came to Maryland from Lexington after working at Gainesway Farm. "I originally thought I wanted to work with bigger horses [than the ones at Shamrock], but I quickly learned that although those horses weren't the biggest, they were good horses. They were durable and they made a lot of money. It made me change my mind about what makes a good horse."

Steele has enjoyed his longtime relationship with the Rooneys. "They're a great family to work for, and they've taken me places I never would've gone."

One of Shamrock's most notable horses was Christopher R., a homebred by multiple stakes winner Loom out of Art Rooney's mare Rita Marie. Named after one of Tom's brothers, Christopher R. won 16 stakes and earned $405,515. In 1975, he won six stakes en route to Maryland-bred Horse of the Year honors. In 1976, he added five more stakes and was awarded a second champion Maryland-bred older male title to go with his 3-year-old championship.

Christopher R. entered stud at Shamrock in 1978. A member of his first crop, a daughter of the Saggy mare Evening Kiss named Molly, shipped to Ireland, where Tom's uncle Tim keeps a farm. "Tim has a farm in Dublin, and at some point got very much into European racing. Back then, it was easier to ship back and forth between here and there, so he was able to have interest in racing in both places."

Molly won a stakes in Ireland as a 3-year-old in 1982. She returned to the U.S. and raced here until the end of 1983. She left a mark, according to Tom: "Whenever I hear Tim talk about mares, he always says, 'I hope she can be like another Molly.' "

Molly's lone surviving foal was the filly Teeming Shore, by L'Emigrant. She spent her career in Europe, winning six times, including a stakes, and was group-placed, before returning

JIM MCCUE

Coffeewithchris gallops home in the Heft, a meet ending stakes for 2-year-olds, for trainer and co-owner John Salzman Jr.

to Shamrock and producing 10 foals. Daughter Lizzie R (by Cozzene), named for Tim's granddaughter, began her career in Ireland and returned to the U.S. in 2000, winning three races from 12 starts total. Lizzie R's fourth foal, the Malibu Moon filly Molly Molly Molly, raced for Shamrock until August 2011, when claimed for $20,000 at Saratoga. That broke the decades-long streak of mares in the Molly line racing for Shamrock. Claimed out of her last race at Laurel for $5,000 in March 2012, Molly Molly Molly returned to the Shamrock band and produced Andiemac, a daughter of Outflanker, the next year. Andiemac sold for $14,000 to Konrad Wayson at the 2014 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale, but Tom followed her.

"There aren't too many descendants of Christopher R. out there, and I'm always looking for horses with that bloodline. As such, I followed her career closely," he said. "I kept waiting for her to either drop to a claiming price I could afford or wait to buy her privately."

The former scenario came to pass in November 2017, when Tom claimed Andiemac for $10,000 at Laurel Park and promptly retired her after two wins and earnings of $45,320.

Tom bred Andiemac to Jess's Dream in 2019, producing a filly named Bitty Baby. She raced six times at Gulfstream Park, managing three thirds without a victory, and is preparing for her second career as a broodmare. The next year, he chose Ride On Curlin, who then stood at Pleasant Acres Stallions in Florida.

"I really loved Ride On Curlin's pedigree, with Victory Ride and, obviously, Curlin and Smart Strike," Rooney said. "We've had a lot of success breeding our mares with A.P. Indy blood to Smart Strike lines."

The mating produced Coffeewithchris, foaled March 21, 2020.

"He didn't cause a lot of trouble. He was strong and good-looking." said Steele. "If he was a problem, I would remember more about him."

Coffeewithchris saved the memorable moment for his stay at Rooney's ranch in Indiantown, Fla.

"One of the first days he was here, he was in a paddock with another colt, and our dog got out of the car and started

running around," Rooney said. "I guess Coffeewithchris had never seen a dog, because he jumped straight through the fence and was running around the ranch. We were all scrambling to get him back under control. I thought, if I end up racing him myself, I wanted to call him 'Fencebuster.' "

Coffeewithchris proved no worse for the wear, and he was entered in the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale. There, he attracted the eye of owner/trainer John Salzman Jr.

"Every year, I buy horses off looks. He came into the ring, and I liked the way he looked," said Salzman, who spent $2,000 and named him as a tribute of sorts to a tumultuous time in Maryland racing.

In spring 2021, issues with the Laurel Park main track necessitated a months-long shutdown; racing shifted to Pimlico and some trainers were relocated to Timonium.

> "To see a horse get first place in a stakes race who goes back to Christopher R. and my grandfather, even though I don't own the horse, it's amazing."
>
> *– Breeder Tom Rooney*

"Everyone had an opinion on what needed to be done, what didn't need to be done, and so they set up a thing in the track kitchen once a week where [track superintendent Chris Bosley] would come in and answer questions," said Salzman, "and it became known as Coffee with Chris."

By the time Coffeewithchris was ready to begin training, the track issues were largely under control, and Salzman set his sights on the end of the Laurel spring meet for his debut.

"I'm an early trainer. I train a lot of 2-year-olds, and I try to have them ready for the first few races, because that way, I'm not running a $2,000 horse against horses who cost a few hundred thousand dollars," Salzman said. "If they end up making more money later, it's a plus, but it at least gives me a chance to win a race with them early on. If you look back over the last 15 years or so, I've won a bunch of [early season 2-year-old races]."

Stakes winners Limited View, Local Motive, Twelve Pack Shelly and Buff My Boots back up the strategy – $5,200 purchase Limited View, Maryland-bred champion 2-year-old filly of 2017, earned $401,141 and sold for $230,000 as a broodmare.

Following a string of bullet workouts, Coffeewithchris was ready to go for his debut May 1, a 4½-furlong dash, for Salzman and co-owners Fred Wasserloos and Anthony Geruso. The 9-5 favorite, he fell far behind early and was no factor. He rebounded 11 days later in a $40,000 maiden claiming race at Pimlico. He crossed the wire second, but was moved up to first when Tiz No Clown was disqualified for causing interference at the start.

Coffeewithchris went to the sidelines after a chip was removed from his ankle, returning to finish fifth in the Hickory Tree Stakes at Colonial Downs Aug, 9. After a few middling performances, he stepped up to finish third in the Maryland Juvenile Championship Stakes Dec. 3 behind the undefeated Post Time and Maryland Million Nursery winner Johnyz From Albany. Those two rivals determined Salzman's next move.

"In the Heft, there was no Johnyz From Albany, who's fast, and there was no Post Time, who looks like he's a superstar," said the trainer. "When I figured out they weren't going to be there, I decided to go to the Heft. If they were there, I would've run him in an allowance race the next day."

Coffeewithchris went off at 16-1 in the six-horse field, with undefeated local hope Prince of Jericho and New York shippers Full Moon Madness and Midnight Trouble taking the bulk of the wagering action. Breaking from the outside post, Coffeewithchris pressed Full Moon Madness, then took charge as they entered the stretch. He held off Prince of Jericho by 2½ lengths after 7 furlongs in 1:24.96.

The victory merited a listing in the Circa Sports Kentucky Derby future book in Las Vegas, but Salzman thinks he'll be better off going shorter. "His dam never ran long, and looking at him, I don't think he's going to go real far. Will he run a one-turn mile? Maybe."

For now, Salzman and Rooney are savoring the ride. "He's a useful horse," said the trainer. "Everyone around the barn loves him; he's a nice horse to be around. He does everything right, and everything worked out that day [in the Heft]."

"It's honestly a dream come true," Rooney said. "To see a horse get first place in a stakes race who goes back to Christopher R. and my grandfather, even though I don't own the horse, it's amazing. It's validation for all the time,

effort and the money you spend in the business, there can be a light at the end of the tunnel. You try so hard and invest so much time, it's important that once in a while, it works out. I can't wait to see what he does next."

Laurel notes

The Dec. 30 card saw two other Maryland-breds win stakes. **Malibu Moonshine** improved to 3-for-3 lifetime and affirmed her status as the top state-bred 2-year-old filly with a win in the Gin Talking. Also raised at Shamrock, for breeder Dr. Ronald Harris Parker, the daughter of Anchor and Hope Farm stallion Bourbon Courage races for Happy Face Racing Stable and New York-based trainer Charlie Baker.

Malibu Beauty won her third stakes of 2022 in the Carousel, going gate-to-wire to win by 7¾ lengths. She's a homebred for ZWP Stable and trainer Gary Capuano's Non Stop Stable. Also on the Dec. 30 program, South Carolina-bred **Swayin to and Fro** won the Willa On the Move Stakes. Claimed for $16,000 by Baxter Racing Stable and trainer Mario Serey Jr. in May at Pimlico, she was one of 10 horses to win at least eight races in North America in 2022.

Factor It In took the Dave's Friend in front-running style, with Angel Cruz aboard for owner Michael Scheffres and trainer Carlos Mancilla, while Pennsylvania-bred **Nimitz Class** prevailed in the Robert T. Manfuso for owner/breeder Tom Coulter and trainer Bruce Kravets.

Claudio Gonzalez was the overall leading trainer in Maryland for the sixth consecutive year, winning 76 races at Laurel, Pimlico and Timonium. He edged **Brittany Russell** (74) and Jamie Ness (73). Russell won Laurel's fall meet training title with 29 wins, five more than Ness.

Trainer Norman "Lynn" Cash's **Built Wright Stables** led all owners in the state with 19 wins and $1,089,659 in earnings. Three wins came with hard-knocking Maryland-bred gelding Eastern Bay, a $35,000 claim at Laurel April 3 who was multiple graded stakes-placed in New York by the end of the year. Larry Johnson won 18 races on the year, Robert Bone 17.

Cruz and **Jeiron Barbosa** tied for the jockey title at the Laurel fall meet, winning 44 races apiece. It was the third meet riding title of the year for Barbosa, a finalist for the champion apprentice Eclipse Award. **Jevian Toledo** won the overall Maryland riding title for the fourth time, setting career highs in wins with 145 and purse earnings of $5.7 million. Barbosa (115) and Cruz (105) also reached the century mark in wins. ■

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— Trackside: Parx Racing —

The Right Price

SWILCAN, LC RACING, REID HIT IT BIG WITH JERSEY-BRED GIRL TROUBLE

By Paul Halloran

You don't have to spend millions to buy a quality Thoroughbred. Tom McGrath might tell you that $15,000 will do the trick, with the luck of the Irish mixed in.

That's what McGrath – who races as Swilcan Stable – and Glenn Bennett of LC Racing spent to purchase a New Jersey-bred filly by Fast Anna out of the Ghostzapper mare Adorabella at the Fasig-Tipton fall yearling sale at Timonium, Md., in 2021.

With a win in the Parx Futurity that was postponed a week to Jan. 3 due to weather, Girl Trouble improved to 7-4-2-1 with $202,500 in earnings.

"To run seven races and be in the money every time, that's rare air," said McGrath, who knows something about stratospheric success, having bred and raced Vequist, 2020 Eclipse Award-winning 2-year-old champion filly. McGrath sold a 75-percent interest in Vequist to Gary Barber and Adam Wachtel after her first race, but was along for the ride as the filly won the Spinaway Stakes-G1 and the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies-G1.

Vequist earned $1.23 million and sold for $3.4 million at the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky 2021 fall mixed sale. Not bad for a horse who was a $120,000 RNA at the 2019 Keeneland September yearling sale.

Speaking of RNAs, Vequist is out of Vero Amore, who was in foal to Nyquist when she failed to bring at least $135,000 at Keeneland November in 2017. Had she been sold, there would have been no Vequist for McGrath, who had bought Vero Amore as a 2-year-old at Timonium in 2013. The purchase price: $15,000.

"Call it Irish luck," McGrath said. "If there's any genius involved here, it's not mine."

He is happy to reap the benefits, however, and excited at the prospects for Girl Trouble, whom he and Bennett bought hoping to take advantage of purse incentives for New Jersey-breds. She earned about $25,000 extra in finishing second and first in two maiden starts at Monmouth, then it was off to open company, with two allowance starts at Parx sandwiched around a third in the White Clay Creek Stakes at Delaware Park in October.

Her first stakes win came in the Future Stars Filly Division at Parx Nov. 29, setting her up for the 7-furlong Futurity, which turned out to be a race for 3-year-old fillies due to the postponement.

"She has a very good head on her shoulders and she handled everything well," said trainer Butch Reid, who picked out the horse at the sale. "We gave her a nice gallop on the day the race was supposed to be run, then she drew a nice outside post."

Sent off as the even-money favorite from post nine in a field reduced to 10 after a scratch, Girl Trouble was in a battle for the lead with Lindalovesgold and Alexis's Storm, who finished sixth and ninth, respectively. Paco Lopez was content to lay second after a quarter-mile in :22.82 over a sloppy and sealed track, before effortlessly guiding her to the lead on the turn.

After encountering what looked to be a serious threat from the Chad Brown-trained Interpolate, a $300,000 Saratoga yearling purchase, when Lopez (barely) asked, Girl Trouble put 5 lengths on the field on the way to an eye-catching victory in 1:27.78 that could understandably cause the connections to be optimistic about her future.

"She came out of the race great," said Reid, who also trained Vequist and Vero Amore. "We'll try to go a little longer next time. The 1-mile Busher at Aqueduct March 4 is an option, along with stakes at Parx and Delaware. She's more experienced, with seven starts, than a good amount of the

FILL DENVER/EQUIT-PHOTO

Girl Trouble kicks off the new year with her second consecutive stakes victory and third win in a row in the Parx Futurity.

horses I train. She has gobbled up all her assignments so far and we'll go on with it."

Bred by Gregory Kilka and Bright View Farm, Girl Trouble is creating her own pedigree page. Her dam, Adorabella, never raced and was purchased by Kilka for $14,000 at Keeneland January in 2020 while carrying her first foal (Girl Trouble). A colt by Bucchero named Book'em Danno came in 2021, followed by a 2022 colt by Classic Empire. Adorabella's dam Alydorable (an Arkansas-bred by Arch) won once and placed in a stakes. She's the dam of two winners, one being 2022 stakes winner Alydiva. Girl Trouble's third dam, Esprit d'Escalier, produced 11 winners including graded winner Gastronomical and two-time European stakes winner Spanish John.

When Vero Amore, second in the 2014 Black-Eyed Susan-G2 at Pimlico, died of colic in January 2022 while in foal to Nyquist, it was a significant loss for McGrath, as the daughter of Mineshaft had also produced Swilcan homebreds Vedareo, who won the Sorority at Monmouth in 2022 and finished fifth in the Schuylerville-G3 and Frizette-G1, and Mainstay, who finished second in the 2021 Schuylerville-G3 but had her career cut short by an injury. She is in foal to Candy Ride (Arg). Vero Amore's last foal is a 2-year-old filly by Accelerate.

Girl Trouble has the potential to continue to take some of the sting out of that loss.

"It's a shock, really," McGrath said. "Who really thinks that a [$15,000] horse is going to turn out like this?"

Considering the connections, maybe a better question is who doesn't?

Recruiting a winner

Cal Lynch and Nick Sanna paid $125,000 at the OBS June 2-year-old sale for a colt by Army Mule out of the Medaglia d'Oro mare Lady Halite. Bloodstock agent Kristian Villante liked Hip 9, from the Ciaran Dunne consignment, who was supposed to be in the OBS March sale but had a minor issue. The horse working an eighth-mile in 10 seconds flat at the sale

didn't do anything to dampen their enthusiasm, and the price was in their range.

"It was Kristian's pick of the sale," said Lynch, based at Fair Hill Training Center. "He liked the physical and we trust his judgment quite a bit. We've bought a few good horses from Ciaran so it wasn't a big reach."

It has been, to this point, a smashing success as the dark bay colt named Recruiter won his first four starts and pushed his earnings to $170,100 after splashing to a 2¾-length win in the Parx Juvenile that was also delayed a week due to winter weather.

NIKKI SHERMAN/EQUI-PHOTO

Recruiter remained undefeated in four starts when taking the Parx Juvenile Stakes in his 3-year-old debut.

"He's a nice horse who does everything right," Lynch said. "He's progressing nicely. He had a big growth spurt and has really come along. We'll keep our fingers crossed."

After leading at every call in his first two starts – a maiden special at Monmouth Aug. 27 and a Laurel allowance Oct. 2 – Recruiter won from just off the pace in the James F. Lewis III Stakes at Laurel Nov. 12, showing versatility also on display in the Parx Juvenile.

Recruiter broke like a shot from the far outside in the eight-horse field, but Mychel Sanchez, who was riding him for the first time, was content to sit in fourth through an opening quarter-mile in :22.33. It was a two-way battle between him and Winning Time, who also entered the race undefeated, on the turn, but Recruiter proved worthy of his 6-5 favoritism and was an easy winner in 1:26.75.

"We thought a lot of him from day one," Lynch said. "We were back and forth between the Parx race and waiting for the Jerome [Jan. 7 at Aqueduct], but we decided to go with whichever race went first."

Due to the postponement, the Juvenile came only four days before the Jerome, which Lynch won in 2017 when it was a Grade 3 with El Areeb, who added the Withers-G3 and earned just under $370,000 in his 11-race career.

"This horse gives me an even better feeling than he did," Lynch said. "He's right there numbers-wise. We're optimistic."

Lynch will take it one race at a time, with eyes on a fairly important race for 3-year-olds at Churchill Downs on the first Saturday in May.

"Every trainer in America wants to be on that trail," Lynch said of the Kentucky Derby-G1, "but the horse will dictate where we go."

The Gotham Stakes, a 1-turn mile at Aqueduct March 4, is a logical spot, especially with 50 Kentucky Derby qualifying points going to the winner, almost certainly enough to get in the field.

"He has to keep improving," Lynch said. "We'll wait for him to dictate where we go next. We always have hope. He's a lovely horse who has been very good so far."

Parx Pickings

Ruben Silvera was the leading rider in 2022 with 162 wins and $5,138,396 in purses. Other jockeys with more than 100 wins were Frankie Pennington (129), Silvestre Gonzalez (122) and Andy Hernandez (104). . . **Jamie Ness** lapped the field in the trainers' standings, winning almost 100 more races than Louis Linder Jr., 166-67. Ness' horses earned $5,012,630. Reid finished sixth in wins (40) and second in earnings ($2,290,328) . . . Parx had a record handle of $18,844,528 on **Pennsylvania Derby Day**, Sept. 24. That marked an 81-percent increase on that day from 2014. Bob Baffert shipped in Taiba to take the Derby-G1, while Society won the Cotillion-G1 for trainer Steve Asmussen. It was a good day for the home team: trainer Guadalupe Preciado had three wins; Reid won the Greenwood Cup-G3 with Ridin With Biden; That's Right won the Turf Monster-G3 to give owner Jim Shannon, trainer Michael Moore and Hernandez their first graded stakes wins; and five races on the card were won by Pennsylvania-breds. ■

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— Trackside: Charles Town —

New Leader

FARRIOR LANDS 2022 TRAINING TITLE AT WEST VIRGINIA TRACK

By Joe Clancy

The last time someone other than Jeff Runco led the trainers' standings at West Virginia's Charles Town Races, someone posted the first video – ever – to YouTube. The 19-second clip, viewed 252 million times since, featured the website's founder Jawed Karim at the San Diego Zoo.

Anthony Farrior was nowhere near the elephant enclosure in 2005, but he'll settle for making history of his own with a takedown – finally – of the Charles Town training championship. Farrior won 140 races at the track to defeat Ronney Brown (118) and perennial leader Runco (79). Runco led the way earnings wise with $2.8 million, but yielded the win title for the first time since Brown put up 150 victories 17 years earlier.

The feat wasn't lost on Farrior, second in 2021.

"Jeff was the king, I just got tired of watching him win everything," he said with a laugh. "I think his new plan is to just win every stakes race they have at Charles Town, which would be pretty good too. He does really well, is a great businessperson and was good about it. He congratulated me."

Farrior, 41, saddled his first runners in 2011 and grew his stable into a regional powerhouse with stalls at Charles Town, Maryland's Laurel Park and a recently purchased farm in West Virginia. He won 202 races overall in 2022, good for 10th in the nation, while driving his stable's starts to a career-high 836 from 244 individual horses.

"We pointed to try to win it," Farrior said of the Charles Town crown. "I focused a little more and tried to get more horses for Charles Town, bought West Virginia-breds and talked to owners about claiming more horses that fit there."

The moves paid off with a quick start and strong performances by several standouts. Treasure Trove, Fully Connected, Azzura and Marz Express each topped $100,000 in earnings while with Farrior. Two-year-old Marz Express blossomed into a two-time stakes winner and Honeyquist was twice stakes-placed. Fully Connected collected four wins. Azzurra won three, as did To the Front.

Farrior kept pace with a demanding schedule shuttling between strings and his home in Hanover, Md. He travels between Laurel Park (where he has 40 stalls) and Charles Town (50) multiple times a week. The mileage would test even the most ambitious of traveling salesmen:

Tuesday: Laurel for training.

Wednesday: Laurel for training, Charles Town for the races.

Thursday: Laurel for training, Charles Town for the races.

Friday: Charles Town for training, Laurel for the races.

Saturday: Laurel for training and racing.

Sunday: Laurel for training and racing.

Monday: Day off.

The schedule – which can change depending on where the stable has runners – is relentless, but so is Farrior.

"Never be satisfied," he said about a key to success. "Every day might be your last. In this business, you can have 100 horses one day and the next day you can have five horses."

Farrior's mother, Patrice Davis, bred and owned racehorses. Stepfather Raymond Davis trained. Farrior was working for UPS when he took his first steps toward becoming a trainer with a little backing from his brother Ryan Houston.

"He was playing professional baseball and decided to claim a couple," said Farrior. Houston's baseball career peaked in Triple A after stints in the Blue Jays, Astros, Brewers and Angels organizations, but his brother kept finding new levels. Farrior went to Florida with a string of 2-year-olds for Chris Melton. "He kind of threw me to the wolves and said figure it out. I learned a lot," said Farrior, who went from there to Mountaineer Racetrack, Charles Town, Laurel and now the split stable. Farrior won 35 races in 2018, more than doubled

JIM MCCUE

Anthony Farrior grabbed his first Charles Town training title, dethroning perennial leader Jeff Runco and Ronney Brown.

it with 73 in 2019, hit 76 in the Covid-wracked 2020 and ramped up to 137 in 2021. All the while, the stable's quality improved in terms of horses and owners.

The trainer added a third platform when he purchased owner/breeder Jim Miller's farm near Charles Town midway through 2022. The facility includes 40 stalls, a free walker and a water treadmill, and gives Farrior another option with horses. In addition to racehorses, the farm is home to yearlings, 2-year-olds and broodmares. Farrior likes the flexibility the place provides.

"Before, I wouldn't try to give horses time because it's hard to find places to send them and people you can trust to do the job the way you want," he said. "Now I've got the farm. It's good for that. We have an option. I can still keep an eye on them, they can get a break and come back to the track when they're ready."

Honeyquist showcased some of that flexibility for Farrior – winning twice and finishing second twice in four starts after missing time early in the season with shin issues. Bred by Miller, the son of Nyquist sold for $170,000 to Machmer Hall as a short yearling in 2021 (with Miller staying in for 25 percent). The chestnut failed to meet his reserve at Keeneland September, and went into training with an eye on a 2-year-old sale last spring. Instead, Farrior put together a partnership – adding Mammas Boys Thoroughbred Racing Group and Ultra Championship Racing to Miller's interest – and started looking for races. Then he had to make phone calls.

"He had to tell the group, which aren't all experienced horsemen, that we were going to have to stop on the horse," said Miller. "That was the right thing to do, and he came back and did his thing."

Honeyquist won his debut at Charles Town Sept. 24, finished second in the Vincent Moscarelli Memorial on Breeders Classics night two weeks later, placed second again in Laurel's James F. Lewis III Stakes in November and won an allowance Dec. 3.

"That's a pretty nice accomplishment thinking about where the horse was," said Miller. "Getting him fit, getting him

back to the races and having him run so well. Anthony was able to do all that. The horse has a ton of talent, and that's part of the dream, hoping there's something better out there. The horse is growing up, we gave him some more time and we're excited to see where it goes."

Another Miller-bred, Marz Express, won three times in 2022 – including two stakes – for Ultra Championship Racing. The daughter of West Coast and Miller's star broodmare Mantekilla struggled in her first two starts, on the dirt at Charles Town and the turf at Colonial Downs, before reeling off the three wins.

> "We pointed to try to win it. I focused a little more and tried to get more horses for Charles Town, bought West Virginia-breds and talked to owners about claiming more horses that fit there"
>
> *– Trainer Anthony Farrior, on the Charles Town championship*

"She'd work good in the mornings, but when dirt hit her in the face she'd quit," said Farrior of trying to sort out the filly. "I took her to Colonial and ran her on the turf. That didn't work. I brought her back to Charles Town and told [jockey Jose Montano] to ride her like it was 4½ furlongs going 6½."

In front throughout, Marz Express won the maiden race in September by a half-length at 34-1, then added a Breeders Classics race and the Eleanor Casey Memorial.

"She was a bright surprise," said Farrior. "Sometimes you just have to keep working at it."

Farrior leans on assistants Cliff Tuomisto and Derrick Goetz to make the barns work, and put out an incentive in September – a cruise if they could hold off Runco for the Charles Town crown – and that's how they ended up in the Bahamas in December. Farm manager Scotty Allen and Farrior's fiancée/stable bookkeeper Kayla Richardson (they get married this month) are key parts of the team as well.

"They're all very important," Farrior said. "I couldn't do it without them. I can't be in all places all the time."

The barn jumped off to a quick start to 2023, going 9-for-20 at Charles Town through Jan. 11, a trend Farrior hopes to maintain. Late in 2022, he was looking toward the future when he purchased five horses at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's December mixed sale. The newcomers included two weanlings (now yearlings) by Mitole and Gormley, broodmares in foal to Holy Boss and Mitole, and a now 4-year-old maiden filly by Freud. Thirteen West Virginia-bred 2-year-olds will be in the barn soon enough, too.

"I think I'm more loaded this year than I was last year," Farrior said, "but there's a long way to go."

Charles Town Notes

Jeff Runco didn't win the title, but led all Charles Town trainers by earnings thanks to stable star **Muad'dib** (3-for-5) with $410,014 at the track including a game second to heavy favorite Art Collector in the Charles Town Classic-G2. It was the first defeat for the son of Fiber Sonde, who returned to win the Sam Huff West Virginia Breeders Classic and closed 2022 with a third in an allowance behind Free Sailin and Social Chic Dec. 10. Runco's barn also included four-time winner The Sky Is Falling, veteran Penguin Power (who won three, two stakes) and four-timer Combination. Runco passed 4,600 wins for his training career in 2022 . . . **Ronney Brown** was closing in on 3,000 after a strong 2022 paced by **Full Moon Lover.** Racing for Brown and his wife Nicole, the now 4-year-old won seven times in 2022 with four seconds in a dozen starts. The seven wins at Charles Town tied three others for most at the track – Tiz the Reason, Primal Destiny and Auburn Mill. Brown claimed **Tiz the Reason** for $10,000 out of a win in February, won two $5,000 claimers with the Bullsbay filly, and then added four more wins in starter or allowance company. **Primal Destiny** won seven in a row (six at Charles Town and one at Timonium) between May and November for Robert Cole Jr. and Kevin Patterson, then added another Charles Town score in December. **Auburn Mill** won his seven for trainers William Aylor Jr., Farrior and Brown while getting claimed three times . . . **John McKee** led all owners at Charles Town in 2022, winning 47 races and piling up earnings of $1,180,315. Homebred No Change led the way with six wins including April's Confucius Say Stakes . . . **Arnaldo Bocachica** (175 wins and $4.2 million) led all jockeys at Charles Town, staying clear of Marshall Mendez (143, $3.4 million) and Carlos Lopez (110, $2.5 million) . . . The 2023 season, expected to include 164 days of live racing, began Jan. 4. ■

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Tapit–Adoradancer, by Danzig Connection

— Broker's Tip —

BY RICK ABBOTT

The force of February

With apologies to T.S. Eliot, on a breeding farm, February is the cruelest month. Every fourth year, just for laughs, they give it an extra day to add to the horseman's misery. If it isn't bitterly cold with frozen pipes and snaps, it warms up enough to turn the gateways and horse-paths to quagmires which then re-freeze and make it impossible for horse or human to walk over the pockmarked ground.

When I was at college in New Jersey it once rained or snowed every single day in the month. I don't believe that we saw the sun for 28 days straight. When you're at college it's a depressing inconvenience; when you're a horse farmer it's so much more than that.

Unlike April through October when grass, the most amazing plant on earth, makes up a significant percentage of a horse's diet, in the winter months horses are totally dependent on humans for every one of their nutritional requirements.

When I was a kid, obsessed with horses and hanging out at a riding stable every minute I was allowed, I remember that the horses were "watered" twice a day in the winter and three times a day in the warmer weather. This consisted of filling a bucket, taking it to each horses stall, and offering it the opportunity to drink. When the horse had drunk its fill, the bucket was removed and offered to the next horse in the stable. There were no buckets or waterers in the stalls. I once visited to a large breeding farm where each horse was led out to a trough morning and night.

Modern thinking requires that horses in winter must, at the very least, be provided with clean, unfrozen water and free choice hay throughout the day and night. This can be relatively pain free if your farm is equipped with heated waterers and a tractor large enough to move big bales of hay even on the snowiest days and nights. Not so much if your small operation is not fortunate enough to have those conveniences. The advent of hay in large 4-foot by 4-foot by 8-foot bales has gone a long way in this regard.

To break up the monotony, there once was a mixed sale in February at Timonium but that sale was subsumed by the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky winter mixed sale. Like Keeneland January, this sale has something for everyone: maiden, open, and pregnant mares as well as "short" yearlings, a few 2-year-olds and racehorses. We rarely sold there, preferring the timing of Keeneland January which was usually completed before the first foals arrived.

In September 2013, for $350,000, we sold a Malibu Moon filly bred by our longtime friend and client Mimi Thorington who was thrilled with the result and very excited by the prospect of watching it race for Live Oak Plantation. On Dec. 15 of that year Mimi died suddenly and without warning. Her death was a blow for Dixie and me personally and for Pennsylvania breeding as a whole.

The executors of the estate were anxious to disperse her holdings and sell the farm as quickly as possible, so the decision was taken to sell all the horses at the 2014 February sale in Lexington. The horses were duly entered and were being prepared for the sale at Charlton when an ice and snow storm struck Chester County. Power was knocked out for over a week and roads were ice-covered three days before we were to ship to the sale. The last thing I wanted was to leave Dixie with the responsibility and drudgery of a farm without power and, therefore, no running water.

When it was time to ship, we still had no power, water was being carried from a stream on the farm, and the vans couldn't get down the driveway to load the horses. The roads were clear by then, so we walked the mares and short yearlings up the half-mile drive to load them by the side of the road. I left for the sale and Dixie, with the help of our manager, Liz Mitchell, and others, soldiered on for four more days without power. During that time, she delivered three foals by flashlight and slept by the fireplace checking the mares every 15 minutes. In the 33 years that we had been on the farm our power had never been out for more than a few hours. Although unprepared, a horsewoman does what is necessary to take care of her livestock and Dixie is a consummate horsewoman.

Meanwhile, in bitterly cold Kentucky, we again witnessed the power of the dispersal. The horses, which I had appraised at $425,000, sold for a gross double that figure. To explain how strong it was I'll merely say that a mare that had not received a bid in the December sale sold for $15,000 in the

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dispersal. By the way, the flashlight foals all did great and Dixie, again, banked a credit with me that I am still paying off.

The thing about February is that the foals start to come hot and heavy. Our hope, in the busy years, was to have 20 foals on the ground by March 1. We would only have a few foals born in January, which meant that in February we were foaling mares almost every other night. We kept the van at the ramp and the driveway clear for emergency trips to New Bolton Center and leaned into the task at hand.

The first few foalings of the year could be stressful – hell, every foaling is stressful, it's just a matter of degree. During the first few each year you are trying to remember to do everything that will be second nature in a few weeks. I once figured out that we had participated in about 1,000 births in the 40 years Charlton existed. Some years after Windfields closed it was as few as 10; some years after Pennsylvania got slot machines it was 60.

Dixie and I never missed a foaling, one or the other of us was always on the farm, day and night. No dinners out, no movie nights, and no spring break trips. From the end of Keeneland January to middle of June it was all hands on deck every minute – that's where the stress lies. Maintaining our 50-year marriage through all of those sleepless nights and anxious days is testament to our devotion to each other and the horses in our care. ■

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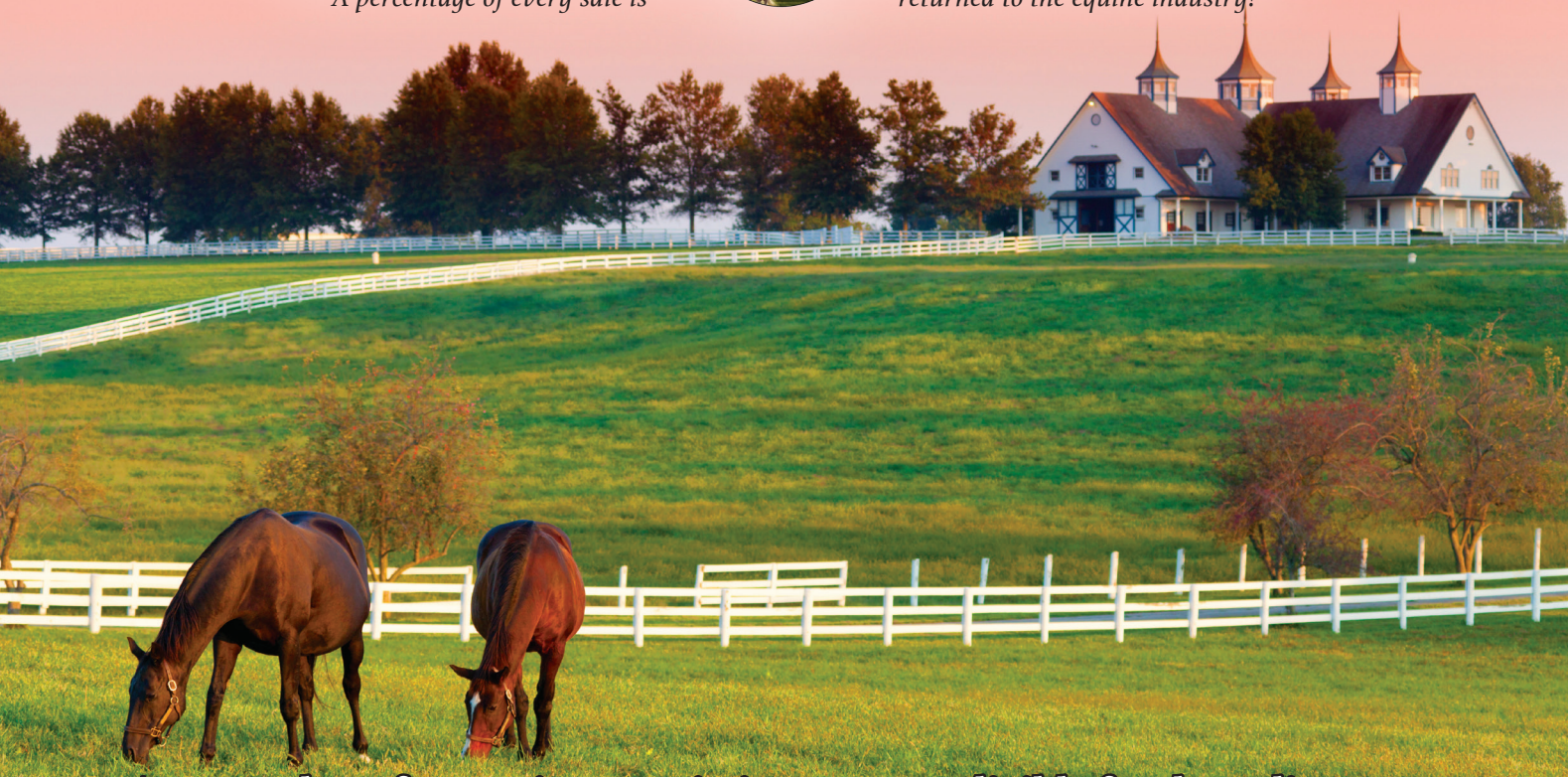

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Bonus Points

Under watchful eyes, Bred Fund seeds industry

By Joe Clancy

Breeder bonus. Stallion bonus. Owner bonus. Developer bonus. If you're involved in Maryland racing, you know the terms and – at least loosely – that they refer to additional premiums paid to the breeders, owners, developers and stallion owners of horses who race in Maryland.

But what do you really know about the bonuses, and the process behind them?

The Maryland Racing Commission oversees the Maryland-Bred Race Fund, which pays bonuses to the people with registered Maryland-breds who finish first, second or third in races at Laurel Park, Pimlico and Timonium.

Funded by revenue from pari-mutuel wagers and slots revenue, the Maryland-Bred Race Fund has grown to about $7 million annually in recent years and – in its current version – is responsible for breeder awards, stallion awards, a portion of Maryland-bred stakes purses and a portion of Maryland Million purses. Also funded by wagering and slots, the Maryland Thoroughbred Purse Account pays for owner bonuses, developer bonuses, purses for Maryland-bred allowance races and a portion of Maryland-bred stakes and Maryland Million purses.

The annual total from both sources passed $12 million in 2021 and $15 million in 2022 (in addition to the individual race purses coming from the purse account), so it makes an impact.

The fund dates to 1962 when breeder Hal C.B. Clagett Jr. and others with the Maryland Horse Breeders Association lobbied politicians in Annapolis for an increase to the wagering takeout to fund incentives. The decision helped triple the foal crop over the next 10 years and fueled imitators in Thoroughbred states around the country.

"In the beginning, the whole point was to reward people who raise horses, race horses and stand stallions in Maryland," said Cricket Goodall, executive director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association. "It was a novel idea at the time and it was created to make the business of raising Thoroughbred horses a little bit better, to reward the people who put in that work."

Early bonuses were paid at the end of each race meet and were based on the handle and the number of qualifying horses who performed at each meet. Of course, that meant the percentage could change from meet to meet. Owners and breeders really didn't know how much they would receive until the bonus check arrived, typically 45 days after the end of each track's meet.

Consolidation and closures (Bowie, plus several smaller tracks around the state) changed the schedule to where the bulk of the racing happens at Laurel and Pimlico under Maryland Jockey Club ownership.

Revenue from slot machines drove purse increases in the region and boosted the breeding programs too as state associations promoted set percentages for owner and breeder bonuses on top of those lucrative purses. Like the others, Maryland reacted when slots revenue began producing for the racing industry in 2010 and soon Maryland-bred horses were eligible for bonuses of 30 percent (breeder), 30 percent (owner) and 10 percent (stallion owner). The plan improved the sales pitch, added stability for horse people and helped the industry find firmer ground, but also brought

additional requirements on the administrative side.

Think about it. The old way paid bonuses based on handle and eligible starters after a given race meet or season ended. It was simple math. Handle generated the revenue pool, and it was divided up. The new way estimates a percentage–no matter how many horses qualify, and without knowing the full amount of the bonus pool even if it's far larger than it was in the early days.

Not that anyone is guessing.

"The slots money comes through the commission, as a monthly allotment; you can pretty much work with that one because it doesn't change very much," said Goodall. "Wagering sticks to historical numbers pretty closely too, but it can always change, and the number of recipients can change too."

The MHBA adminsters the Maryland-Bred Race Fund, sending checks to breeders and stallion owners based on official race results while also taking on an advisory role to the commission.

The fund can't run a deficit, and that's why the mechanics get reviewed every six months by the commission's Maryland Fund Advisory Committee (with representatives from the MHBA, the racing commission, the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, the Maryland Jockey Club and Timonium) and the committee makes a recommendation to the full commission.

"Paying a percentage makes you project, which is more work and comes with some uncertainty," said Goodall. "You don't have the exact figures of horses or revenue you're going to have at any given period, but it's based on projections."

And they're conservative–typically under-projecting revenue and over-projecting potential expenses. That's why the program has been around more than 60 years, but it's also why the numbers are subject to change.

Committee chair David Hayden, a member of the full commission and a breeder, goes back to the early days of the program.

"I remember when it was win-only, and it was paid at the end of the meet," he said. "In some ways, that was better–because you knew what you were dealing with–but now everybody wants consistent percentages. There are obligations and it's a balancing act. The race days could change, the foal crop could change, the purse levels could change, the wagering could change."

Hayden said earlier projections help the committee make decisions, as does a long-range approach.

"It has to last," he said. "You can't give away money you don't have."

The bonus program was designed to incentivize, and it's done that job. That, of course, means more horses are eligible for the bonus program which means a regular re-evaluation of the program, its percentages and its recipients. In its current iteration, the fund and the Maryland Thoroughbred Purse Account distribute the following bonues for the program.

The fund pays:

• 22.5 percent to breeders of horses who finish 1-2-3 in Maryland overnight and stakes races (with the purse level, for bonus purposes, capped at $100,000).

• 7.5 percent additional breeder bonus for Mary-

Maryland-bred Bonus Payments

for registered Maryland-breds running in Maryland

Bonuses are paid 45 to 75 days from date of actual race.

Purse $	*1st place earns $*	***1st place breeder bonus $***	*2nd place earns $*	***2nd place breeder bonus $***	*3rd place earns $*	***3rd place breeder bonus $***
14,000	8,400	1,890	2,800	630	1,400	315
14,500	8,700	1,958	2,900	653	1,450	326
15,000	9,000	2,025	3,000	675	1,500	338
15,500	9,300	2,093	3,100	698	1,550	349
16,000	9,600	2,160	3,200	720	1,600	360
16,500	9,900	2,228	3,300	743	1,650	371
17,000	10,200	2,295	3,400	765	1,700	383
17,500	10,500	2,363	3,500	788	1,750	394
18,000	10,800	2,430	3,600	810	1,800	405
18,500	11,100	2,498	3,700	833	1,850	416
19,000	11,400	2,565	3,800	855	1,900	428
19,500	11,700	2,633	3,900	878	1,950	439
20,000	12,000	2,700	4,000	900	2,000	450
22,000	13,200	2,970	4,400	990	2,200	495
23,000	13,800	3,105	4,600	1,035	2,300	518
24,000	14,400	3,240	4,800	1,080	2,400	540
25,000	15,000	3,375	5,000	1,125	2,500	563
26,000	15,600	3,510	5,200	1,170	2,600	585
27,000	16,200	3,645	5,400	1,215	2,700	608
28,000	16,800	3,780	5,600	1,260	2,800	630
29,000	17,400	3,915	5,800	1,305	2,900	653
30,000	18,000	4,050	6,000	1,350	3,000	675
31,000	18,600	4,185	6,200	1,395	3,100	698
32,000	19,200	4,320	6,400	1,440	3,200	720
33,000	19,800	4,455	6,600	1,485	3,300	743

Purse $	*1st place earns $*	***1st place breeder bonus $***	*2nd place earns $*	***2nd place breeder bonus $***	*3rd place earns $*	***3rd place breeder bonus $***
34,000	*20,400*	***4,590***	*6,800*	***1,530***	*3,400*	***765***
35,000	21,000	4,725	7,000	1,575	3,500	788
36,000	21,600	4,860	7,200	1,620	3,600	810
37,000	22,200	4,995	7,400	1,665	3,700	833
38,000	22,800	5,130	7,600	1,710	3,800	855
39,000	23,400	5,265	7,800	1,755	3,900	878
40,000	24,000	5,400	8,000	1,800	4,000	900
41,000	24,600	5,535	8,200	1,845	4,100	923
42,000	25,200	5,670	8,400	1,890	4,200	945
43,000	25,800	5,805	8,600	1,935	4,300	968
44,000	26,400	5,940	8,800	1,980	4,400	990
45,000	27,000	6,075	9,000	2,025	4,500	1,013
46,000	27,600	6,210	9,200	2,070	4,600	1,035
47,000	28,200	6,345	9,400	2,115	4,700	1,058
48,000	28,800	6,480	9,600	2,160	4,800	1,080
49,000	29,400	6,615	9,800	2,205	4,900	1,103
50,000	30,000	6,750	10,000	2,250	5,000	1,125
51,000	30,600	6,885	10,200	2,295	5,100	1,148
52,000	31,200	7,020	10,400	2,340	5,200	1,170
53,000	31,800	7,155	10,600	2,385	5,300	1,193
54,000	32,400	7,290	10,800	2,430	5,400	1,215
55,000	33,000	7,425	11,000	2,475	5,500	1,238
56,000	33,600	7,560	11,200	2,520	5,600	1,260
57,000	34,200	7,695	11,400	2,565	5,700	1,283

land-sired Maryland-bred maiden winners.

• 7.5 percent to owners of stallions whose progeny finish 1-2-3 in overnight and stakes races.

The purse account pays:

• 15 percent to owners of horses who finish 1-2-3 in overnight races (as part of the purse and reflected in a horse's official earnings).

• 15 percent to developers of horses who finish 1-2-3 in overnight races, with a developer defined as the owner of the horse in its first start (not paid as part of the purse or reflected in a horse's official earnings).

In a completely unscientific review, the Jan. 13-15 cards at Laurel included 39 Maryland-breds among the first three finishers in 26 races–an even 50 percent of the 78 available 1-2-3 placings. A week earlier, also in 26 races, 30 Maryland-breds qualified for bonus payments.

In 2022, the bonus framework resulted in estimated payments of $6.5 million (breeders), $2.8 million (owners), $2.5 million (developers) and $1.2 million (stallion owners). The same structure was approved for the first six months of 2023 and will be reviewed again in June.

The bonus program is open to horses registered with the MHBA that meet certain residency requirements. To be eligible, a horse must be foaled in Maryland and is eligible if the breeder resides in or keeps stock in Maryland year-round. Otherwise the foal must be sired by a Maryland stallion or its dam must be bred back to a Maryland stallion that year.

See marylandthoroughbred.com or call (410) 252-2100 for the full details. ❧

Library hosts grand opening

The Maryland Horse Library and Education Center officially opened to the public Dec. 16 during a grand opening and open house, which celebrated the result of decades of work and planning.

Numerous state and local officials attended, including Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski, Baltimore County Council chair Julian Jones, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Steve Connelly, Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Schatz, Maryland state delegate and comptroller-elect Brooke Lierman. Maryland House Speaker Adrienne Jones took a tour later in the afternoon.

The Maryland Horse Library and Education Center honors the long and storied history of horses in Maryland and serves as a hub for learning and research. Visitors may use a reference library featuring more than 5,000 volumes covering a wide range of horse topics. The facility includes media and research rooms, a gallery for memorabilia displays, and a conference area for meetings.

The library, which is non-lending, and the education center are open to the public Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Upcoming Events

This month, the library will expand its presence at marylandhorse.com/library, including a look at its creation; history and descriptions of the racing silks adorning the outside of the building; a schedule of events; what's new in the library, including recently added titles; book reviews, and more.

Check the website and the Maryland Horse Weekly to keep up with news and planned activities. ❧

The opening of the MHLEC drew a large crowd and rave reviews. Participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony were (from left): MHBA president Kent Murray, Julian Jones, Johnny Olszewski, Josh Pons, Eula Frenkil, Richard Blue, Victor Frenkil, Cricket Goodall, Brooke Lierman, Stephen Schatz and Steve Connolly.

Maryland-bred Stakes Winners

Miss J McKay takes second consecutive Abundantia Stakes

Miss J McKay won her final start of 2022 Dec. 24, taking the Abundantia Stakes at Gulfstream Park for the second consecutive year.

The Abundantia marked Miss J McKay's first start since an eighth in the Sensible Lady Turf Dash at Pimlico in September. Her next appearance was at the Keeneland November breeding stock sale, where she sold for $325,000 to Oakwood Stables, Cheyenne Stable and trainer Christophe Clement. She returned to the worktab in late November at Clement's Payson Park base and went off as the 7-2 third choice in the nine-horse Abundantia.

Under Tyler Gaffalione, she broke well and drafted toward the back in the early stages. She lacked room turning for home, but shifted out of traffic to advance in the stretch and won by 1¼ lengths in :56.18 for 5 furlongs on good turf.

Miss J McKay improved to 6-4-3 from 20 starts, for earnings of $466,893. She added to previous stakes wins in the License Fee at Belmont Park in May 2022 and the Anne Arundel County Stakes at Laurel Park in September 2019. She's placed in seven other stakes.

Bred by Linda Oliff Rohleder, Miss J McKay is by former Maryland stallion Hangover Kid. Miss J McKay sold at auction three times before 2022. She was purchased for $1,500 by D R Investments at the 2017 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December mixed sale as a weanling, then sold for $55,000 to Maxis Stable at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale in 2018. After racing for Maxis and trainer Cal Lynch for two seasons, she sold for $300,000 to Jackson Farms at Keeneland November in 2020. Turned over to Clement, she raced for owners Madaket Stables, Wonder Stables, Tony Weintraub and Brandon Dalika until her most recent sale.

She is the first foal out of Maryland-bred Ballykiss (Street Boss). From the family of Allaire duPont's graded stakes-winning mare Thirty Years, Ballykiss is also dam of the winning filly Imaginthekiss (Imagining) and placed runner Mr. J. McKay, a full-brother to Miss J McKay, from three foals of racing age.

Ballykiss sold for $180,000 in foal to Constitution at Keeneland January in 2021 to WinStar Farm, and has since produced fillies by Constitution in 2021 and Speightstown in 2022 and was bred to Justify for 2023. ❧

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Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
October 1 to October 31, 2022

Breeder bonuses

Includes the additional 10 percent Maryland-sired bonus for winners of maiden races, initiated Jan. 1 during the 2022 Laurel winter meet. That bonus is reflected in the second figure earned for the race.

Alan Kline Marital Trust—My My Girl: Oct. 2, 8th race, $2,610; Oct. 20, 6th race, $2,610. ($5,220)

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—Al Loves Josie: Oct. 8, 7th race, $2,160; Oct. 29, 9th race, $6,480. She'sarollingstone: Oct. 7, 4th race, $1,935. Skylar's Sister: Oct. 22, 8th race, $3,000. Vance Scholars: Oct. 1, 9th race, $2,250; Oct. 22, 11th race, $3,000. ($18,825)

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc. and Copper Penny Stables—Call Me Vivian: Oct. 16, 8th race, $990.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc. and Finn's Nickel LLC—R B's the Boss: Oct. 14, 8th race, $5,400.

Barak Farm—Fivecommatwo: Oct. 8, 4th race, $2,340. One Ten: Oct. 30, 6th race, $5,940. ($8,280)

Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC—Trash Talkin Larry: Oct. 23, 3rd race, $1,575.

Barak Farm and Sharon Dodgen—Backnthewoods: Oct. 1, 6th race, $1,687.50.

David Baxter Sr.—Hemp: Oct. 29, 9th race, $2,160.

William Bayne and Super C Racing—Bliss This: Oct. 1, 10th race, $562.50.

BB Horses—Ladro Di Fichi: Oct. 6, 9th race, $990.

Patricia Beck and Richard C. Beck—Daily Planet: Oct. 20, 3rd race, $1,080.

Best Foot Forward LLC—Gallant Gold: Oct. 15, 6th race, $4,860; Oct. 30, 6th race, $1,980. ($6,840)

Black Fox Farm—Auspicious Lad: Oct. 13, 8th race, $3,915/$1,305. ($5,220)

James A. Blackwell—Tom Hagen: Oct. 16, 6th race, $1,215.

Charles Blanford—Uncle Irish: Oct. 13, 6th race, $7,830.

David Benjamin Bloom—Wildhunch: Oct. 22, 4th race, $1,500.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—Imagine It All: Oct. 30, 9th race, $1,305. Prince Pere: Oct. 9, 7th race, $4,320. Seville Row: Oct. 22, 1st race, $750. ($6,375)

Bonita Farm—Never Done: Oct. 21, 7th race, $4,860/$1,620. ($6,480)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—Cynergy's Electra: Oct. 6, 1st race, $1,170. He Rolls: Oct. 15, 3rd race, $1,620. ($2,790)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Green Eyes: Oct. 9, 6th race, $2,970.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Dr. Brooke Bowman and Milton P. Higgins III—Post Time: Oct. 7, 6th race, $7,020; Oct. 27, 8th race, $7,290. ($14,310)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Alwaysinahurry: Oct. 22, 10th race, $1,500.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky Buckley and Joshua Dreiband—Dr. Ferber: Oct. 9, 3rd race, $585.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Claire's Darling: Oct. 13, 2nd race, $4,320; Oct. 29, 6th race, $585. Queen Sheba: Oct. 28, 7th race, $1,215. Tom Terrific: Oct. 2, 1st race, $585. ($6,705)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Shawn M. Howser—Bourbon Wildcat: Oct. 7, 8th race, $7,290.

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Master of None: Oct. 13, 4th race, $5,940. Rustys Gfivefifty: Oct. 6, 4th race, $1,080. Super Accelerate: Oct. 14, 7th race, $1,980. ($3,060)

Derek Brown—Sloe Gin Biz: Oct. 8, 2nd race, $652.50; Oct. 30, 9th race, $652.50. ($1,305)

Shellaine Brown, Susan Baldrige, Horseshoe Valley, Treasure Stable—Going to the Lead: Oct. 8, 8th race, $1,395.

William Andrew Campbell—Bad Temper: Oct. 7, 9th race, $1,035.

CandyLand Farm—Flaming East: Oct. 8, 3rd race, $4,725.

Clover Hill Farm Inc.—Bo's Bourbon: Oct. 1, 4th race, $4,860/$1,620. ($6,480)

Clover Hill Racing LLC—Ladneedsahandler: Oct. 14, 5th race, $1,080.

Susan S. Cooney—Meliponini Bee: Oct. 20, 1st race, $4,860/$1,620; Oct. 30, 1st race, $1,575. ($8,055)

Cordelia Stables LLC—Imagine Victory: Oct. 27, 9th race, $1,260. Victorian Riviera: Oct. 2, 4th race, $562.50; Oct. 29, 7th race, $1,305. ($3,127.50)

Country Life Farm—Response Time: Oct. 23, 2nd race, $2,610.

Country Life Farm and Broken Trust Fund LLC—Wicked Prankster: Oct. 16, 6th race, $7,290; Oct. 22, 9th race, $8,250. ($15,540)

Country Life Farm and Curio Broodmare LLC—Targe: Oct. 2, 7th race, $7,830.

Country Life Farm and Imagistic LLC—Mosler's Image: Oct. 22, 12th race, $750.

Country Life Farm and Miss Moonshine LLC—At the Gate: Oct. 14, 3rd race, $652.50.

Country Life Farm and Missy Rules LLC—Liquidator: Oct. 13, 1st race, $3,915/$1,305. Wonder Water: Oct. 15, 7th race, $4,860/$1,620. ($11,700)

Country Life Farm and Moonlit Malibu LLC—Esperannna: Oct. 28, 2nd race, $3,105.

Country Life Farm and Placentia LLC—Small But Feisty: Oct. 9, 4th race, $3,375/$1,125. ($4,500)

Country Life Farm and Rock Sapphire LLC—Sapphire Beauty: Oct. 2, 4th race, $1,125; Oct. 8, 5th race, $1,305. ($2,430)

Country Roads Ltd.—My Flicker: Oct. 7, 4th race, $5,805. Utterly Courageous: Oct. 6, 7th race, $2,430. ($8,235)

CRK Stable LLC—Mejoramiga: Oct. 6, 5th race, $3,645.

Crystal Park Stables Inc.—Brilliant Ice: Oct. 23, 6th race, $990.

Dark Hollow Farm—Consultant: Oct. 23, 3rd race, $4,725. Edie Meeny Miny Mo: Oct. 30, 8th race, $3,150. Tauber: Oct. 22, 2nd race, $600. ($8,475)

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidov—Combat Queen: Oct. 9, 8th race, $4,860; Oct. 30, 4th race, $7,290. ($12,150)

Deer Creek Racing—Mo Fire: Oct. 7, 1st race, $630.

George L. Doetsch—Lady Whistledown: Oct. 8, 1st race, $517.50. Winston's Gold: Oct. 21, 3rd race, $607.50. ($1,125)

Double NK Partnership and Dennis Jankiewicz—Disputed Notion: Oct. 6, 6th race, $517.50.

Elevate Equine LLC, DDRS and Ron Cuneo—Patriotic Party: Oct. 23, 6th race, $5,940/$1,980. ($7,920)

Emcee Stable LLC and Matt Teachout—Lottaclass Lilsass: Oct. 14, 3rd race, $3,915.

The Etched Racing Partnership—Acadian Girl: Oct. 6, 7th race, $7,290.

Annette Eubanks—Lookin for Justice: Oct. 13, 5th race, $3,915.

Charles D. and Dianne E. Fawley—Missawlet: Oct. 16, 2nd race, $3,645.

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—Rock the Boat: Oct. 22, 3rd race, $3,000.

Fitzhugh LLC—Sheriff's Kid: Oct. 22, 5th race, $600. Wall: Oct. 15, 5th race, $810. ($1,410)

Charles A. Frock—Tam Char: Oct. 21, 6th race, $3,645.

Scott C. Fuchs—No Fooling Dude: Oct. 22, 2nd race, $1,200.

Gainesway Thoroughbreds Limited—Born for Victory: Oct. 8, 2nd race, $3,915/$1,305. ($5,220)

Robert E. Gamber—Oboy: Oct. 29, 1st race, $1,125.

Robert J. Gerczak—Antipoison: Oct. 8, 6th race, $382.50; Oct. 28, 8th race, $1,170. Beltway Bob: Oct. 22, 1st race, $4,125. Dialing Dixie: Oct. 14, 5th race, $3,240. Hov Lane: Oct. 23, 8th race, $3,375/$1,125. ($13,417.50)

Nancy B. Heil—Karan's Notion: Oct. 22, 10th race, $3,000.

Highclere and Five Hellions Farm—Free Square: Oct. 14, 5th race, $540.

Hillwood Stable LLC—Dream Big Dreams: Oct. 6, 4th race, $2,160. Misty's Lass: Oct. 30, 5th race, $7,020. Self Assured: Oct. 16, 8th race, $1,980. ($11,160)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo—Shinelikeadiamond: Oct. 14, 1st race, $4,725.

Kyle Horlacher—Crabs N Beer: Oct. 22, 9th race, $1,500. Double Fireball: Oct. 2, 7th race, $1,305; Oct. 22, 6th race, $3,000. ($5,805)

Hot Silks Racing Stable LLC—If Then: Oct. 8, 1st race, $3,105.

Jagger Inc.—Bossyness: Oct. 16, 5th race, $990. Chickieness: Oct. 22, 8th race, $8,250. Heartness: Oct. 8, 9th race, $630. ($9,870)

R. Larry Johnson—Energy Efficient: Oct. 13, 4th race, $1,980. Fashionista: Oct. 6, 3rd race, $810. Heldish: Oct. 22, 4th race, $3,000. Hollywood Walk: Oct. 23, 5th race, $7,830. In Vain: Oct. 28, 5th race, $1,935. Notimelikepresent: Oct. 15, 7th race, $810. Sky's Not Falling: Oct. 22, 3rd race, $8,250. Spun Glass: Oct. 23, 9th race, $3,150. Street Copper: Oct. 22, 9th race, $3,000. Votethemallout: Oct. 8, 3rd race, $787.50. Who Knows What: Oct. 7, 8th race, $1,215; Oct. 30, 4th race, $1,215. ($33,982.50)

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Martharita: Oct. 28, 2nd race, $517.50.

Leaf Stable—Southern Lad: Oct. 15, 9th race, $3,915/$1,305. ($5,220)

Estate of Fred T. Lewis Sr. DVM—Katie's Notion: Oct. 2, 6th race, $5,940/$1,980. Landon Jack: Oct. 7, 6th race, $2,340. ($10,260)

LGB Thoroughbreds—Categoryninetynine: Oct. 20, 1st race, $810.

Little Man Farm—Tidewater: Oct. 29, 8th race, $1,170.

Kenneth F. Lowe Jr.—Willow Wood: Oct. 23, 6th race, $1,980.

Marathon Farm Inc.—Mercury Head: Oct. 21, 8th race, $1,080. Super E: Oct. 22, 1st race, $1,500. ($2,580)

Mary E. Eppler Racing Stable—Good Story: Oct. 23, 8th race, $1,125.

Mary E. Eppler Racing Stable and A. Leonard Pineau—Amicalola Falls: Oct. 2, 9th race, $630. Crush It: Oct. 6, 4th race, $6,480. ($7,110)

Mike Dalton LLC—Quincannon: Oct. 30, 9th race, $3,915/$1,305. ($5,220)

Kevin P. Morgan—Imagine the Mojo: Oct. 7, 5th race, $540. Manklin Creek: Oct. 27, 2nd race, $517.50. Mavilus: Oct. 6, 8th race, $1,215; Oct. 22, 5th race, $3,300. World Factor: Oct. 15, 9th race, $1,305. ($6,877.50)

Morgan's Ford Farm—Nicolar: Oct. 20, 3rd race, $2,160.

Edmund T. Mudge IV—Amplio Esquema: Oct. 22, 6th race, $1,500.

Murmur Farm—Bonded: Oct. 1, 4th race, $810; Oct. 13, 4th race, $990. Elusive Agent: Oct. 8, 7th race, $6,480. Royal Spy: Oct. 15, 6th race, $810. ($9,090)

Audrey R. Murray—Pounding Music: Oct. 22, 12th race, $4,125.

No Guts No Glory Farm—Bandits Warrior: Oct. 21, 8th race, $6,480. Fuhgeddaboudit: Oct. 7, 8th race, $2,430. ($8,910)

Douglas Oswald—Monyinthebanksey: Oct. 9, 3rd race, $3,510.

David W. Palmer—Laramore: Oct. 13, 3rd race, $776.25.

A. Leonard Pineau—Crossland: Oct. 21, 1st race, $1,620. No More Mask: Oct. 21, 8th race, $2,160. ($3,780)

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—My Candy Girl: Oct. 20, 3rd race, $6,480.

Joel Politi—Bosserati: Oct. 22, 8th race, $1,500. Dunder Boss: Oct. 23, 10th race, $562.50. Thunder Boss: Oct. 6, 9th race, $1,980. ($4,042.50)

Ponder Hill Inc.—Barzini: Oct. 29, 8th race, $7,020.

Vivian E. Rall—Great Idea: Oct. 9, 7th race, $1,440; Oct. 29, 2nd race, $1,575. ($3,015)

Charles J. Reed—Johnyz From Albany: Oct. 2, 5th race, $2,430; Oct. 22, 4th race, $8,250. ($10,680)

Thomas Rooney—Coffeewithchris: Oct. 14, 8th race, $900.

Shamrock Farm—Albertano: Oct. 16, 3rd race, $2,970.

M. Terry Shane—Mi Yayis: Oct. 2, 4th race, $3,375.

Hamilton A. Smith—I'm Gittin There: Oct. 1, 3rd race, $4,860.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton A. Smith—Stone Courageous: Oct. 21, 2nd race, $630.

Hamilton Smith, Fred Greene Jr. and Deborah Greene—The Poser: Oct. 22, 11th race, $1,500.

James Claude Smith Jr.—Princess Palmer: Oct. 29, 10th race, $652.50.

South Branch Equine LLC—Reel Well: Oct. 29, 4th race, $5,940.

James B. Steele Jr.—Mashua: Oct. 29, 10th race, $1,305.

Sweet Spirits Stables LLC—Fille d'Esprit: Oct. 22, 7th race, $8,250. Sweet Asta: Oct. 27, 2nd race, $3,105. ($11,355)

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Addy's Laddy T N T: Oct. 20, 8th race, $3,375/$1,125. Alla Breve: Oct. 28, 3rd race, $7,020. Feeling Woozy: Oct. 7, 2nd race, $2,340; Oct. 28, 6th race, $2,340. Girls Love Me: Oct. 15, 4th race, $1,440. Paisley Singing: Oct. 2, 7th race, $2,610; Oct. 23, 2nd race, $7,830. Smart Eulee: Oct. 6, 9th race, $5,940/$1,980. Sweet Gracie: Oct. 22, 7th race, $1,500. Your Analysis: Oct. 2, 6th race, $990. ($38,490)

Thomas L. Teal—Rad Paisley: Oct. 29, 9th race, $1,080.

James F. Thames—Notion to Tapit: Oct. 1, 10th race, $3,375/$1,125. ($4,500)

The Elkstone Group LLC—Click to Confirm: Oct. 20, 6th race, $1,305. La Casa d'Oro: Oct. 30,

Maryland-bred top earners in 2022

(through December 31)

1.	Knicks Go	$585,000	
2.	Fille d'Esprit	420,055	
3.	Eastern Bay	356,507	
4.	Double Crown	322,330	
5.	Field Pass	280,128	
6.	Alottahope	277,175	
7.	Luna Belle	255,000	
8.	Malibu Beauty	253,880	
9.	Ournationonparade	240,071	
10.	Divine Huntress	224,555	
11.	Whereshetoldmetogo	$220,004	
12.	Cordmaker	206,240	
13.	Breviary	203,517	
14.	Plot the Dots	196,579	
15.	Aloha West	196,222	
16.	Joe	194,744	
17.	Rustys Gfivefifty	186,626	
18.	Karan's Notion	186,338	
19.	Uncle Irish	181,937	
20.	Going to the Lead	181,769	

4th race, $2,430. Monster Mason: Oct. 21, 5th race, $2,430. Order Ofthe Kettle: Oct. 14, 7th race, $5,940. ($12,105)

Thornmar Farm LLC—Canoodle: Oct. 23, 2nd race, $1,305. Coconut Cake: Oct. 22, 6th race, $8,250. Startwithabang: Oct. 7, 5th race, $1,080; Oct. 22, 5th race, $1,200. The Wolfman: Oct. 2, 1st race, $3,510; Oct. 22, 2nd race, $3,300. ($15,675)

Thornmar Farm and Tim Keefe—That's Some Kiss: Oct. 21, 4th race, $4,860/$1,620. ($6,480)

Walter N. Vieser II—Americas Woman: Oct. 27, 1st race, $1,215.

Mary P. Voss—Zevon: Oct. 29, 4th race, $990.

David H. Wade—Rominski: Oct. 8, 7th race, $1,080.

Susan Wantz—Divine Fashion: Oct. 14, 1st race, $1,575. Mosler Safe: Oct. 29, 2nd race, $787.50. ($2,362.50)

John E. Williamson III—Mysisternancy: Oct. 16, 5th race, $1,980. Ournationonparade: Oct. 22, 11th race, $8,250. ($10,230)

Donald Clifford Wilson—Downtown Katie: Oct. 22, 12th race, $1,500.

ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable—Malibu Beauty: Oct. 22, 7th race, $3,000.

Stallion bonuses

BALTIMORE BOB (Hov Lane: Oct. 23, 8th race, $1,125): Robert Gerczak.

BANDBOX (Coconut Cake: Oct. 22, 6th race, $2,750. Dream Big Dreams: Oct. 6, 4th race, $720. Manklin Creek: Oct. 27, 2nd race, $172.50. Sweet Gracie: Oct. 22, 7th race, $500. The Poser: Oct. 22, 11th race, $500. The Wolfman: Oct. 2, 1st race, $1,170; Oct. 22, 2nd race, $1,100): Bandbox Syndicate—$6,912.50.

BARBADOS (Albertano: Oct. 16, 3rd race, $990): Shamrock Farm.

BLOFELD (Bonded: Oct. 1, 4th race, $270; Oct. 13, 4th race, $330. Chickieness: Oct. 22, 8th race, $2,750. Crabs N Beer: Oct. 22, 9th race, $500. Elusive Agent: Oct. 8, 7th race, $2,160. Johnyz From Albany: Oct. 2, 5th race, $810; Oct. 22, 4th race, $2,750. Royal Spy: Oct. 15, 6th race, $270): Blofeld Syndicate—$9,840.

BOURBON COURAGE (Bourbon Wildcat: Oct. 7, 8th race, $2,430. Martharita: Oct. 28, 2nd race, $172.50. She'sarollingstone: Oct. 7, 4th race, $645. Skylar's Sister: Oct. 22, 8th race, $1,000. Stone Courageous: Oct. 21, 2nd race, $210. Utterly Courageous: Oct. 6, 7th race, $810): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$5,267.50.

BUFFUM (Malibu Beauty: Oct. 22, 7th race, $1,000. Quincannon: Oct. 30, 9th race, $1,305. Shinelikeadiamond: Oct. 14, 1st race, $1,575): Buffum Syndicate—$3,880.

CAL NATION (Ournationonparade: Oct. 22, 11th race, $2,750): Cal Nation Syndicate.

DIVINING ROD (Bliss This: Oct. 1, 10th race, $187.50. Bo's Bourbon: Oct. 1, 4th race, $1,620. Born for Victory: Oct. 8, 2nd race, $1,305. Divine Fashion: Oct. 14, 1st race, $525. Flaming East: Oct. 8, 3rd race, $1,575. Liquidator: Oct. 13, 1st race, $1,305. Rustys Gfivefifty: Oct. 6, 4th race, $360. Willow Wood: Oct. 23, 6th race, $660. Wonder Water: Oct. 15, 7th race, $1,620): Divining Rod Syndicate—$9,157.50.

DORTMUND (Never Done: Oct. 21, 7th race, $1,620. Victorian Riviera: Oct. 2, 4th race, $187.50; Oct. 29, 7th race, $435): Kaleem S. Shah—$2,242.50.

EDITORIAL (Daily Planet: Oct. 20, 3rd race, $360): Climax Stallions LLC.

FREEDOM CHILD (Free Square: Oct. 14, 5th race, $180. Tom Terrific: Oct. 2, 1st race, $195): Freedom Child Syndicate—$375.

FRIESAN FIRE (Landon Jack: Oct. 7, 6th race, $780. Mo Fire: Oct. 7, 1st race, $210): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$990.

GOLDEN LAD (Addy's Laddy T N T: Oct. 20, 8th race, $1,125. Auspicious Lad: Oct. 13, 8th race, $1,305. Gallant Gold: Oct. 15, 6th race, $1,620. Oct. 30, 6th race, $660. I'm Gittin There: Oct. 1, 3rd race, $1,620. Ladneedsahandler: Oct. 14, 5th race, $360. Paisley Singing: Oct. 2, 7th race, $870; Oct. 23, 2nd race, $2,610. Southern Lad: Oct. 15, 9th race, $1,305. That's Some Kiss: Oct. 21, 4th race, $1,620. Winston's Gold: Oct. 21, 3rd race, $202.50): Golden Lad Syndicate—$11,047.50.

GREAT NOTION (Alwaysinahurry: Oct. 22, 10th race, $500. Americas Woman: Oct. 27, 1st race, $405. Brilliant Ice: Oct. 23, 6th race, $330. Disputed Notion: Oct. 6, 6th race, $172.50. Fille d'Esprit: Oct. 22, 7th race, $2,750. Fuhgeddaboudit: Oct. 7, 8th race, $810. Good Story: Oct. 23, 8th race, $375. Great Idea: Oct. 9, 7th race, $480; Oct. 29, 2nd race, $525. Heartness: Oct. 8, 9th race, $210. Heldish: Oct. 22, 4th race, $1,000. Karan's Notion: Oct. 22, 10th race, $1,000. Katie's Notion: Oct. 2, 6th race, $1,980. Mashua: Oct. 29, 10th race, $435. Meliponini Bee: Oct. 20, 1st race, $1,620; Oct. 30, 1st race, $525. My Flicker: Oct. 7, 4th race, $1,935. Notion to Tapit: Oct. 1, 10th race, $1,125. Rock the Boat: Oct. 22, 3rd race, $1,000. Rominski: Oct. 8, 7th race, $360. Smart Eulee: Oct. 6, 9th race, $1,980. Tam Char: Oct. 21, 6th race, $1,215. Wildhunch: Oct. 22, 4th race, $500): Great Notion Syndicate—$21,232.50.

HANGOVER KID (Pounding Music: Oct. 22, 12th race, $1,375): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

HOLY BOSS (Al Loves Josie: Oct. 8, 7th race, $720. Oct. 29, 9th race, $2,160. Bosserati: Oct. 22, 8th race, $500. Bossyness: Oct. 16, 5th race, $330. Crossland: Oct. 21, 1st race, $540. Dunder Boss: Oct. 23, 10th race, $187.50. R B's the Boss: Oct. 14, 8th race, $1,800. Thunder Boss: Oct. 6, 9th race, $660. Vance Scholars: Oct. 1, 9th race, $750; Oct. 22, 11th race, $1,000): Holy Boss Syndicate—$8,647.50.

IMAGINING (Call Me Vivian: Oct. 16, 8th race, $330. Claire's Darling: Oct. 13, 2nd race, $1,440. Oct. 29, 6th race, $195. Double Fireball: Oct. 2, 7th race, $435; Oct. 22, 6th race, $1,000. Green Eyes: Oct. 9, 6th race, $990. Imagine the Mojo: Oct. 7, 5th race, $180. Imagine It All: Oct. 30, 9th race, $435. Imagine Victory: Oct. 27, 9th race, $420. Zevon: Oct. 29, 4th race, $330): Imagining Syndicate—$5,755.

IRISH WAR CRY (Feeling Woozy: Oct. 7, 2nd race, $780; Oct. 28, 6th race, $780. Fivecommatwo: Oct. 8, 4th race, $780): Northview Stallion Station Inc.—$2,340.

KENDALLS BEAR (Missawlet: Oct. 16, 2nd race, $1,215): Dianne Fawley.

KOBE'S BACK (Trash Talkin Larry: Oct. 23, 3rd race, $525): Bonita Farm.

MADEFROMLUCKY (Cynergy's Electra: Oct. 6, 1st race, $390): Madefromlucky Syndicate.

MOSLER (At the Gate: Oct. 14, 3rd race, $217.50. Bandits Warrior: Oct. 21, 8th race, $2,160. Esperannna: Oct. 28, 2nd race, $1,035. Mosler Safe: Oct. 29, 2nd race, $262.50. Mosler's Image: Oct. 22, 12th race, $250. Mysisternancy: Oct. 16, 5th race, $660. Response Time: Oct. 23, 2nd race, $870. Sapphire Beauty: Oct. 2, 4th race, $375; Oct. 8, 5th race, $435. Small But Feisty: Oct. 9, 4th race, $1,125. Wicked Prankster: Oct. 16, 6th race, $2,430; Oct. 22, 9th race, $2,750): Mosler Syndicate—$12,570.

NICANOR (Sweet Asta: Oct. 27, 2nd race, $1,035): Nicanor Syndicate.

NORUMBEGA (Acadian Girl: Oct. 6, 7th race, $2,430): Bonita Farm & Stuart Janney III LLC.

NOT FOR LOVE (Crush It: Oct. 6, 4th race, $2,160): Not For Love Syndicate.

ORIENTATE (Mavilus: Oct. 6, 8th race, $405; Oct. 22, 5th race, $1,100. No Fooling Dude: Oct. 22, 2nd race, $400. Prince Pere: Oct. 9, 7th race, $1,440): Orientate Syndicate—$3,345.

OUTFLANKER (Tidewater: Oct. 29, 8th race, $390): Outflanker Syndicate.

REDEEMED (Going to the Lead: Oct. 8, 8th race, $465. Patriotic Party: Oct. 23, 6th race, $1,980): Redeemed Syndicate—$2,445.

SEVILLE (GER) Amplio Esquema: Oct. 22, 6th race, $500. Downtown Katie: Oct. 22, 12th race, $500. Queen Sheba: Oct. 28, 7th race, $405. Seville Row: Oct. 22, 1st race, $250. Sky's Not Falling: Oct. 22, 3rd race, $2,750): Seville Syndicate—$4,405.

STREET MAGICIAN (Fashionista: Oct. 6, 3rd race, $270. Street Copper: Oct. 22, 9th race, $1,000): R. Larry Johnson—$1,270.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Bad Temper: Oct. 7, 9th race, $345. Categoryninetynine: Oct. 20, 1st race, $270. Hemp: Oct. 29, 9th race, $720): Country Life Farm—$1,335.

Registration questions?

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Member benefits questions?

Call Emily
at the MHBA office
410.252.2100 ext. 129

DON'T MISS A BONUS!

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THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **February 2023** -

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He'spuregold honored by New Jersey Department of Agriculture

John Bowers Jr.'s He'spuregold, a versatile and consistent New Jersey-bred who won two stake races in 2022, has been named the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's New Jersey-bred Thoroughbred of the Year.

In six starts his 4-year-old season, He'spuregold started with a Monmouth Park allowance win, then took the $85,000 Irish War Cry Handicap going 1 mile on the turf for the second consecutive year. The son of Vancouver (Aus) out of the Smart Strike mare Smart N Classy added a resounding win in the $125,000 Charles J. Hesse III Handicap in August. The Hesse victory was his first race on the dirt after 13 races on the turf to start his career.

He'spuregold's dam, Smart N Classy, was a graded stakes-winning New Jersey-bred for Bowers who earned $466,209. As a broodmare, she has also produced multiple stakes winner and 2019 New Jersey Department of Agriculture's Thoroughbred of the Year Valedictorian ($761,115), and stakes winner Stay Smart ($268,080).

Trained by Kelly J. Breen, He'spuregold earned $199,000 in 2022 and for his career (through Dec. 31) has five wins in 16 career starts for earnings of $332,320.

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2022 New-Jersey-Bred Stakes Winners

Photographs by Equi-Photo, Inc.

HE'SPUREGOLD
2022 Earnings $199,000. Winner of the Irish War Cry Handicap and Charles Hesse III Handicap. Bred and owned by John Bowers, Jr. Trained by Kelly J. Breen.

ALTA VELOCITA
2022 Earnings $114,730. Winner of the Spruce Fir Handicap. Bred by Law Legacy Stables LLC. Owned by Imaginary Stables and M3 Racing Stable. Trained by Andrew L. Simoff.

I'M LISTENING
2022 Earnings $105,590. Winner of the Smart N Classy Handicap. Bred by George and Margaret Schwartz. Owned by Magic Stable LLC. Trained by Claudio Gonzalez.

BRAMBLE BAY
2022 Earnings $160,170. Winner of the Jersey Girl Handicap and Pinot Grigio Handicap. Bred by Ballybrit Stable LLC. Owned by Ballybrit Stable (Jersey Girl Handicap) and Michael Dubb (Pinot Grigio Handicap). Trained by Mike Dini (Jersey Girl Handicap) and Michael Maker (Pinot Grigio Handicap).

ROYAL URN
2022 Earnings $63,000. Winner of the John J. Reilly Handicap.
Bred and owned by John Bowers Jr. Trained by Kelly J. Breen.

OUR MAN LUKE
2022 Earnings $57,895. Winner of the Sunny Ridge Handicap.
Bred and owned by G J Stables. Trained by Luis Carvajal.

SPEAKING
2022 Earnings $145,425. Winner of the New Jersey Breeders Handicap.
Bred and owned by Holly Crest Farm. Trained by Eddie Owens Jr.

SMITHWICK'S SPICE
2022 Earnings $174,422. Winner of the Joey P. Handicap.
Bred and owned by New Spice Stable. Trained by Douglas Nunn.

GIRL TROUBLE
2022 Earnings $160,500. Winner of the Future Star Filly Division Stakes. Bred by Gregory J. Kilka and Bright View Farm. Owned by Swilcan Stable LLC and L C Racing. Trained Robert E. Reid Jr.

I CAN RUN
2022 Earnings $171,590.
Winner of the Eleven North Handicap. Bred by Bright View Farm. Owned by Robert D. Bone and Magic Stable, LLC. Trained by Claudio Gonzalez.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

Membership Application

Member Information

NAME _____ SS#/FEDERAL I.D.# _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Membership Categories

☐ Breeder — A breeder member shall be a person who owns the required interest in a broodmare or registered stallion domiciled in New Jersey; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. A breeder member shall have voting rights.

☐ Owner — An owner member shall be a person who owns a registered New Jersey- bred; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. An owner member will not have voting rights.

☐ Associate — An associate member is a person who is interested in owning, breeding, or racing horses in the State of New Jersey or in fostering economic activity through the breeding, ownership and/or racing of horses in the State of New Jersey. An associate member will not have voting rights.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Membership Dues

A check or money order for $65.00 must accompany this form. Spouses are encouraged to join the **TBANJ** under joint membership status. This fee would total $100.00 per couple. Each spouse must fill out a separate form to accompany the payment. Membership will be effective upon receipt and will be in force each calendar year and must be renewed annually.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
265 Hwy 36
Suite 1R
W. Long Branch, NJ 07764
(732) 542-8880
email: njbreds@gmail.com

North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

February 2023

President's message

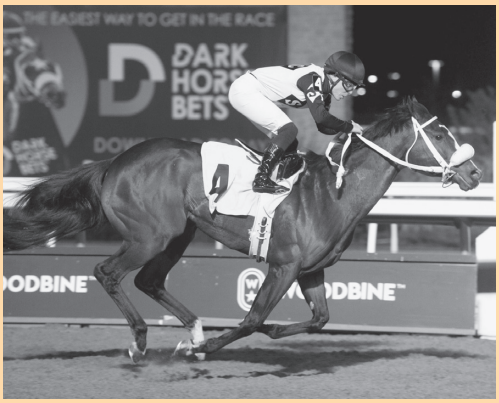
Hopefully this new year is being good to you so far. Congratulations to Denise Walsh and Bill Thompson for the horses they bred making it to the winner's circle.

You've probably noticed how late the membership forms got out. Even though I am working from home, my job takes up a lot of my time. Plus, after being on the work computer all day, it's hard for me to get on my laptop in the evening. Geez, I forgot how much time a job takes away from my leisure. Why did I give up retirement?

Please feel free to use the membership form on the second page of this newsletter if you didn't receive one or forgot where you put the one you sent in the mail. Thank you for your continued support.

–Rebecca

Racing Review



Admonish wins at Woodbine for breeder Bill Thompson Jr. *Michael Burns Photo*

Admonish (NC), by Mosler out of Adjudicate, by Jump Start, won at Woodbine Dec. 8 for breeder Bill Thompson. The 4-year-old dark bay or brown filly ran 1 1/16 miles in 1:41.37 on an all-weather track. After being crowded at the start, Admonish settled in mid-pack running on the rail. She started gaining ground around the far turn, angled out at the stretch, took the lead near the sixteenth pole and drove clear to win by three and one-half lengths.

Duke of Cork, by Denis of Cork out of Gold Butter, by Gold Token, came in second at Charles Town Nov. 26 for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 4-year-old dark bay gelding ran 6½ furlongs on a fast dirt track.

Double Tough Tiger, by Tourist out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge, was second at Gulfstream Park Dec. 7 for breeder Beth Muirhead. The 4-year-old dark bay gelding ran 1 mile on a fast, dirt track only to be beat out by only a half length.

Condemnation, by Speightster out of Southern Silence, by Dixie Union, came in third at Mahoning Valley Racecourse Dec. 6 for owner Caroline Cooper–Check Racing. The 3-year-old bay gelding ran 6 furlongs on a good dirt track on a cloudy day.

Gulfstream Way, by Gemologist out of Clever Cookie, by Smart Strike, won at Aqueduct Dec. 18 for breeder Denise Walsh. The 4-year-old bay gelding ran 1 mile in 1:39.64. Gulfstream Way set the pace from the start, pressured by several foes but held on to win by a half length.

Gulfstream Way wins at Aqueduct for breeder Denise Walsh. *Coglianese Photography*

My Dixie Lass, by Blofeld out of Missdixieactivist, by Activist, came in third at Penn National Dec. 7 for breeder and owner James Chandley. The 3-year-old bay filly ran 1 1/16 miles on a sloppy sealed track in the fog.

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME_____SPOUSE_____

FARM_____

MAILING ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____

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PHONE: HOME_____ CELL_____WORK_____

☐Jr. MEMBER - AGE 25 UNDER @ -0

☐FARM @ $80.00

☐SPONSOR @ $140.00

☐CORPORATE SPONSOR @ $250.00

☐INDIVIDUAL @ $55.00

☐NON-PROFIT HORSE ASSOCIATIONS @ $20.00(covers cost of magazines)

Membership includes subscriptions to Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Magazine

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Involvement in Thoroughbred Industry
(Please check any or all pertaining to you)

☐Breeder	☐Racing	☐ Steeplechase	☐Boarding	☐Foaling
☐Lay-ups	☐Race Training	☐Racing Fan	☐Showing	☐Show Training
☐Hunter/Jumper	☐Eventing	☐Dressage	☐Pleasure	☐Other_____

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **N.C.T.A.**
MAIL WITH COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: **Rebecca Montaldo, NCTA, P.O. Box 76., Fayetteville NC 28302**

Thank you for your support.

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association
(910) 261-7595 • www.ncthoroughbred.com • ncthoroughbred@gmail.com • P.O. Box 76, Fayetteville, NC 28302
Rebecca Montaldo, *president;* **Jimmy Teal,** *treasurer; Directors:* **Elizabeth Houck, Vince Mathews, Chris Stiller**

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

February 2023
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

VISIT PABRED.COM

- **Racing and breeding news**
- **PA-Bred entries/results**
- **Rules, regulations, forms**

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Fiddler's Green: A Pennsylvania utopia for new PA breeders

by Nikki Sherman

Jon and Colleen Fabriziani (right), with their first broodmare purchase, Sweet Saturday, are expanding their operation at Fiddler's Green in Chester Springs.

Sometimes relationships are meant to be about more than just love. Sometimes relationships are also about history and the future too. Jon and Colleen Fabriziani more than personify this. Jon's father was an exercise rider as a youngster, and he passed his love of the sport to his twin sons, Jon and Josh. Their mother owned horses and had farms in Vermont and Florida. Colleen's extended family immigrated from Ireland–where horses are a way of life–to Canada and they owned racehorses. So it goes without saying that the young couple would join forces in the horse racing world as well.

"We started getting more interested in horse ownership when we met Claudia Dollinger, who rented our barn last year for her four broodmares," Jon remembered. "We absolutely loved having the horses on the farm and seeing the foals grow up over the summer."

The Fabrizianis are both extremely well-educated, with Jon an optometrist for the family practice Fab Eye Care and Colleen a chemical engineer for the Navy. They sought out advice from Don and Marie Morrison and then smartly, they took a careful route into the industry by joining Kathleen and Greg DeMasi's Pewter Stable.

"We really liked that it was a family business," said Jon. "I was lucky enough to talk to Greg about getting started in horse ownership and how he went through the ups and downs of the industry. I think communication and trust is really important and the DeMasis do a great job with the owners."

While they still have connections with Pewter Stable, their goal was always to learn about the industry so that they could be successful on their own.

"The plan was always to branch out on our own once we learned a little bit more about the game," Jon noted. "For me, breeding provides owners so many options in the sport. It doesn't limit you to one area of horse racing. There is no other facet of the game that allows you to pick a stallion and mare, raise a foal, race the filly or colt, and then breed them after their racing career is done!"

To get rolling with their breeding farm, Claudia Dollinger introduced the Fabrizianis to Justine Howell of Whysper Wynd Farm. Justine was more

Fiddler's Green continued from page 1

than happy to help the "newbies" and has been mentoring the couple as they enter this new phase of racehorse ownership. She even has one of her own mares at their farm to keep their new Keeneland purchase company since she lives just five minutes away.

The experience of being at the prestigious Keeneland November Sale blew the Fabrizianis away, with the energy and hopes of everyone that one of the mares being offered would be in foal to the next Kentucky Derby winner. Justine helped them narrow down their search and the group finally found their mare, Sweet Saturday, a half-sister to Exaggerator in foal to Tiz the Law.

"She took the time to sit with us and review hundreds of pedigrees and coached us through our first trip to Lexington," Jon said. "Having someone like Justine, who brings years of experience and knowledge, is invaluable. She knows the steps to avoid and what's worth taking a risk on. I'm sure we will make a few mistakes down the road but it'll be a whole lot less than we would've made without her expertise."

Sweet Saturday has the Fabrizianis excited and ready to go back again for their second mare soon. The daughter of Any Given Saturday had been circled in the catalog but they had not been able to examine her until she was in the sales pavilion. Colleen ran out to take a video for Jon to see her conformation and then returned to join her husband as the mare entered the ring. They had previously been outbid on ten horses but were determined to find the perfect mare. When the gavel finally fell, the Fabrizianis had purchased Sweet Saturday for $20,000.

"I think conformation and pedigree are important, but there is one trait that I think is most important, winning," said Jon. "The goal for me is to not only breed physical athletes, but to also breed a desire to win and I think this strategy gives you the best shot at getting a well-rounded, hungry runner. As the old adage goes in Thoroughbred breeding, 'Breed the best to the best and hope for the best!'"

Back in Pennsylvania, Sweet Saturday arrived at her new home in Chester Springs, a farm that the Fabrizianis had purchased in June 2021. They are excited to foal their first PA-Bred this spring, especially after meeting "PA legend" Glenn Brok at the November Sale, who told them about the bright future of Pennsylvania racing.

"The reason we got into horse racing is because of the PA-Bred program," Jon noted. "It represents everything that Colleen and I stand for; keeping Pennsylvania's open spaces and horse farms going. This program gives PA breeders a chance to be rewarded for all the hard work and money that goes into breeding Thoroughbreds. There is no other state that rewards their breeders like Pennsylvania."

Of course, with the purchase of a farm comes the job of deciding on a perfect name. After much thought, the Fabrizianis landed on Fiddler's Green. Jon told the story and it comes across like a fairytale.

"The name stems back to Colleen's family in Ireland. Her grandfather's farm in Port Loaise, Ireland, was named Fiddler's Green. The name comes from an old Irish song by the same name. In the song, during the potato famine, farmers had to become fishermen to make a living. They dreamt of being buried on Fiddler's Green, which represents a utopia, an afterlife, a dreamland.

"When he immigrated here in the 1950s and met Colleen's grandmother [also an Irish immigrant] they settled in Massachusetts…and bought a small cottage in Cape Cod which they named Fiddler's Green, their own utopia.

"When we found our farm and were considering names, we couldn't help but see the similarities between our utopia in Chester Springs and those of our grandparents before us. With me being a violin player, along with the vast greenery of pasture, the name fit both literally and metaphorically. In our living room hangs a painting of the original Fiddler's Green painted by Colleen's grandfather. It reminds us of the hard work and sacrifice that went into our own Fiddler's Green and we are grateful for it every day."

A few words from the Executive Secretary

I hope you took advantage of our January Stallion Season Auction and booked your 2027 Derby winner! If not, take a look at the PA Stallions eligible for the PA-Sired PA-Bred 2yo Stallion Series and double the breeder awards! You can view the available seasons on our website.

You should also have received a hard copy of the new Stallion Directory to help with your selections or you can view it online at pabred.com. If you didn't receive a directory, please call our office and we'll send a copy. Thank you for making our breeding program the best in the country!

The PA-Bred PA-Sired 2yo Series is expanding this year and will be run in three legs, SIX STAKES, at 5½ furlongs for $100,000, 6½ furlongs for $150,000, and a flat mile for $200,000. Each leg will consist of a 2yo race and a 2yo filly race. Don't forget about the $50,000 trainer bonus for the top three point-earning horses. Nominations for the 2023 series are $500 for 2yo's if paid by March 31. You can go to pabred.com under 'Forms' or 'Featured' and print the nomination form.

Broodmares that were not in the state by Dec. 1, 2022, or within 14 days of a public sale (within 60 days of a sale outside the U.S.) must be bred back to a PA-Sire. We ask that you submit all broodmare domicile forms online. The new form is available for use by going to pabred.com under 'Forms' and is now mandatory for registration.

As usual, please contact our office with any questions you may have. Pennsylvania is the only place to Breed & Race! Have a great 2023 and Go PA!!

IN 2023 BREED TO A PA STALLION

50% BREEDER AWARDS

FOR PA-BREDS IN ALL MDN RACES
RUN IN PA & **40%** FOR ALL OTHERS

ELIGIBLE FOR 2YO
$1 MILLION
PA-SIRED PA-BRED
STALLION SERIES

The Series is being expanded in 2023 and will be run in three legs, six stakes, 5½f for **$100,000**, 6½f for **$150,000** and a flat mile for **$200,000**. Each leg will consist of a 2yo race and a 2yo filly race.

NOMINATION FEE
$500
IF PAID BY
MARCH 31
OF 2YO YEAR

Don't forget about the **$50,000** trainer bonus for the top three point earning horses.

PENNSYLVANIA
HORSE BREEDERS
ASSOCIATION

Please contact our office with any questions.
Brian Sanfratello at **610.444.1050**
pabred.com | #PABred on social media

PA-Bred Fund Statistics: Top Earners

January 1 through November 30, 2022

LEADING EARNERS - TOTAL AWARDS

Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Total
Northview Stallion Station Inc.	0	478,503	478,503
Blackstone Farm LLC	427,062	0	427,062
William J. Solomon VMD	278,587	122,872	401,460
Glenn E. Brok LLC	288,772	105,922	394,694
Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC	272,805	104,490	377,296
Joseph Imbesi	294,620	0	294,620
A1A Racing	194,530	79,249	273,779
Richard N. Miller	221,504	46,869	268,373
Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	76,481	184,584	261,065
Arrowwood Farm Inc.	253,229	0	253,229
Sylmar Farm Inc.	243,628	0	243,628
Pewter Stable	181,607	29,497	211,104

Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Total
Warriors Reward	167,799	13,983	181,782
Maria M. Haire	144,870	13,949	158,819
Donald L. Brown Jr.	124,624	22,491	147,115
St. Omer's Farm	139,055	0	139,055
Chuck Russo	94,712	33,290	128,002
Michael Raymond Anspach	123,597	0	123,597
Peter Giangiulio	100,711	6,296	107,007
Godstone Farm LLC	106,901	0	106,901
W M T Stables Inc.	99,506	0	99,506
Michael M. Moore	99,321	0	99,321
LC Racing LLC	95,820	0	95,820
Vicky Schowe	94,789	0	94,789

LEADING STALLIONS

Fund Money includes Stallion Awards only

Stallion Name	Stallion Owner / Manager	No. of Races	Award Total
Weigelia	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	302	184,584
Jump Start	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	415	173,211
Uncle Lino	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	245	146,726
Uptowncharlybrown	Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC	318	108,500
Peace and Justice	A1A Racing	197	79,249
Social Inclusion	Social Inclusion Partners LLC	38	78,041
Talent Search	Glenn E. Brok LLC	154	72,057
El Padrino	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	178	70,207
Last Gunfighter	William J. Solomon VMD	140	58,377
Emperor Tiberius	Richard N. Miller	84	40,760
Red Vine	DB Dojo LLC	68	35,143
Il Villano	Chuck Russo	62	33,290

Stallion Name	Stallion Owner / Manager	No. of Races	Award Total
Hoppertunity	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	30	31,350
Winchill	Pewter Stable	32	29,497
Well Spelled	Godstone Farm LP	74	28,627
Bullsbay	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	76	27,229
Lord Shanakill	William J. Solomon VMD	98	25,007
Messner	Donald L. Brown Jr.	18	22,491
Mad Flatter	Glenn E. Brok LLC	57	19,446
Albert the Great	William J. Solomon VMD	66	16,680
Fairbanks	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	32	16,255
Silver Train	Henry R. Nothhaft	59	15,822
Warrior's Reward	Warriors Reward	40	13,983
Eclipticalspraline	Maria M. Haire	44	13,949

LEADING HORSES

Fund Money includes: PA-Bred Races, Breeder and Stallion Awards and PA-Bred Owner-Bonus Payments

Horse	Pedigree	Breeder	Races	Stakes	Breeder Award	Stallion Award	Bonus	Total
Flor de Sombra *	Social Inclusion - On a Star	Joseph Imbesi	5	254,000	137,200	33,790	0	424,990
Gordian Knot *	Social Inclusion - Mia	Joseph Imbesi	4	187,400	111,700	27,025	0	326,125
Love in the Air	Constitution - Lovely Syn	Blackstone Farm LLC	4	189,800	42,360	0	0	232,160
Buy Land and See	Cairo Prince - Twiggles	Joseph Imbesi	3	168,600	45,720	0	0	214,320
Fortheluvofbourbon	Bourbon Courage - Nosubstituteforluv	Hidden Acres 4D Farm LLC	7	112,200	61,656	0	38,880	212,736
Midnight Parade *	Hoppertunity - Bank'n On Gold	Sylmar Farm Inc.	2	112,800	66,969	16,214	4,878	200,861
Winning Time *	Winchill - Merry's Pegasus	Pewter Stable	2	105,600	67,800	16,200	0	189,600
Smooth B *	Weigelia - Katarica Disco	St. Omer's Farm	7	68,400	66,008	16,502	22,720	173,630
Beren *	Weigelia - Silmaril	Susan C. Quick	6	95,000	58,800	14,700	0	168,500
Ninetyprcentmaddie *	Weigelia - Amblin Easy	LC Racing LLC	4	64,560	60,096	14,142	21,120	159,918
Ruby Bleu *	Messner - Ruby Soul	Donald L. Brown Jr.	10	9,200	70,926	17,732	47,376	145,234
Far Mo Power *	Uncle Lino - J. D. Safari	Peter Giangiulio	9	22,200	76,960	19,240	22,800	141,200
Keithsendshelloooo *	Uptowncharlybrown - Be Bop a Lula	Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC	9	62,640	52,311	11,852	12,162	138,965
Too Boss *	El Padrino - Bossy Posse	Michael Joseph Cascio	3	55,200	49,328	12,332	15,520	132,380
Tactical Pajamas *	Uncle Lino - Salishan	Vicky Schowe	5	59,400	44,676	11,169	8,640	123,885
Nice Ace	Noble Mission - A Lady With an Ace	Blackstone Farm LLC	7	58,800	37,996	0	17,580	114,376
Nimitz Class	Munnings - Five Diamonds	Arrowwood Farm Inc.	6	57,000	28,610	0	11,814	97,424
Bazinga C	Exaggerator - Bazinga B	Joseph Besecker	5	60,000	25,626	0	11,208	96,834
Veeson *	Il Villano - Springingintherein	Chuck Russo	5	54,000	31,235	7,597	2,420	95,252
Chub Wagon	Hey Chub - Takin the Plunge	Joe-Dan Farm Inc.	2	78,800	15,760	0	0	94,560
Risque Rebel *	Fairbanks - Rebel Creek	Connie L. Nesteruk	10	0	47,093	11,773	33,352	92,218
Vine Jet *	Red Vine - Our Girl Friday	E. Marie Morrison	7	3,920	50,448	12,612	25,200	92,180
My Train *	Silver Train - Echo Company	Robert G. Rutherford	14	0	46,491	11,623	33,208	91,322
Roses For Debra	Liam's Map - Essential Rose	Blackstone Farm LLC	4	58,200	24,046	0	6,930	89,176

**Denotes PA-sired*

South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

Racing Across the Nation

Between Nov. 26 and Dec. 17, four horses who went through the breaking process in South Carolina won stakes races.

Swayin To and Fro, bred in South Carolina by Franklin "Goree" Smith, kicked things off when she quickly took the lead in the Safely Kept Stakes for 3-year-old fillies at Laurel Park and never looked back, winning as much the best by 3½ lengths. She is a daughter of Straight Talking, who was owned by Smith and stood at stud at the Elloree Training Center before his untimely death. During her 13-race career, Swayin To and Fro has recorded seven wins and two thirds.

The 2-year-old **Post Time** made three starts in 2022, all at Laurel Park, and won them all. He broke his maiden in September and came back to win an allowance race three weeks later. On Dec. 3, Post Time trailed the field early on in the Maryland Juvenile Championship before launching his bid approaching the stretch. During the final quarter mile, Post Time proved much the best, crossing the finish line 3¾ lengths in front under a hand ride. Post Time was purchased by Cary Frommer as a yearling and developed to become a racehorse in Aiken.

Wudda U Think Now won his third stakes restricted to New York-breds when proving best in the Alex M. Robb Stakes at Aqueduct Dec. 17. Developed by Donna Freyer at the Camden Training Center, he was in the lead at every call, started to draw clear at the top of the stretch and led the field across the finish line 3¼ lengths in front. A 5-year-old son of Fast Anna, he has eight career wins, four coming in 2022. In 19 career starts, Wudda U Think Now has accumulated $503,750. He is owned by SCTOBA member Stuart Grant's The Elkstone Group LLC. Grant is also the owner of the Camden Training Center.

General Banker finally broke his maiden in his eighth career start. This victory occurred in a stakes race no less! General Banker, a 2-year-old son of Central Banker, was fourth for the opening half-mile in the New York Stallion Series Stakes at Aqueduct Dec. 17. He began to advance while between horses before shifting to the outside. When he hit the stretch, he took off, winning by 8½ lengths. General Banker came up through Travis Durr's program at the Travis Durr Training Center in St. Matthews.

SC Legislative Session convened in January

The South Carolina Legislature began its 2023 session in January and the South Carolina Equine Advancement Act was filed in both the Senate and House of Representatives. The purpose of this Act is to establish a grant program to assist the growth and development of the equine industry in South Carolina.

Private Creed 2022 Aiken-trained Horse of the Year

The Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame's Advisory Board named Private Creed, a 2-year-old son of Jimmy Creed—South Andros, by Sky Mesa, the 2022 Aiken-trained Horse of the Year.

Making five starts his juvenile season, Private Creed broke his maiden in July at Ellis Park in Kentucky. After finishing third in the Skidmore Stakes at Saratoga in August, he captured the Global Tote Juvenile Sprint Stakes at Kentucky Downs in September and the Indian Summer Stakes at Keeneland in October.

Private Creed finished third in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint Stakes-G1 at Keeneland, beaten just over a length by the winner Mischief Magic (Ire), and boosted his earnings to $599,313.

Private Creed was purchased by Marcus and Crystal Ryan at the 2021 Keeneland September Yearling Sale for$45,000. The Ryan's own Mason Springs Training Center near Windsor, S.C., and put the finishing touches on the horses they take to the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale at the Aiken Training Track. Private Creed was purchased by Mike McCarty for $155,000 and turned over to trainer Steve Asmussen.

From the desk of...

… On Dec. 12, **Beverly Park**, a 5-year-old son of Munnings—Madeira Park, by Langfuhr, won his 14th race in 29 starts for the 2022 calendar year. He captured a starter allowance at Mahoning Valley Race Course. Not only does this make him the winningest Thoroughbred based on victories for the year, but he also has made the most starts.

Purchased by SCTOBA member PTK LLC, Beverly Park went through the breaking and early training process at Bobby, Debby and Jason McCutchen's training center in Kingstree, S.C. He is currently owned by Bull Wright Stables, LLC and trained by Norman Cash.

… **Franklin "Goree" Smith** is the breeder of four recent South Carolina-bred winners. On Nov. 26, **Swayin To and Fro** won the $100,000 Safely Kept Stakes at Laurel Park. She is a daughter of Straight Talking. Done Talking, who stands at the Elloree Training Center, was represented by winners **Tilted Tiara** on Nov. 21 at Laurel Park, **Alas and Alack** on Dec. 12 at Laurel Park and **What a Tart** on Dec. 13 at Mountaineer.

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	*Training Center*	*Date*	*Track*	*Type of Race*
Sabalenka	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	11/20/22	Churchill Downs	Allowance
Heir Port	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	11/20/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Feeling Woozy	Elloree Tng Ctr	11/20/22	Laurel Park	Maiden Special Weight
Treasure Tradition	Aiken – Cary Frommer	11/21/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Mimi's Golden Ring	Aiken – R. Hammond	11/23/22	Mahoning Valley	Allowance
Plot the Dots	Custom Care- D.Freyer	11/24/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Golden Gulley	Kirkwood Stables	11/26/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Reggae Music Man	Legacy Stable/Mason Springs	11/26/22	Aqueduct	Allowance
Duckphat	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	11/26/22	Aqueduct	Maiden Special Weight
Rikio	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	11/26/22	Mahoning Valley	Maiden Special Weight
SWAYIN TO AND FRO	Elloree Tng Ctr	11/26/22	Laurel Park	Safely Kept S
Beverly Park	McCutchen Tng Ctr	11/28/22	Mahoning Valley	Starter Allowance
Jumpmaster	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	11/30/22	Penn National	Allowance
Safe Trip	McCutchen Tng Ctr	12/02/22	Turfway Park	Maiden Special Weight
A Western Yarn	Aiken-Legacy Stable	12/03/22	Tampa Bay Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Opus Forty Two	Aiken-Legacy Stable	12/03/22	Tampa Bay Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Classic Legacy	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/03/22	Aqueduct	Maiden Special Weight
Milton The Monster	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/03/22	Aqueduct	Allowance
POST TIME	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/03/22	Laurel Park	Maryland Juvenile Championship
Pine Valley	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/05/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Heir Port	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/06/22	Penn National	Allowance
Uncle Dar	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/06/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Majestic Creed	Aiken- Cary Frommer	12/07/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Phra Phrom	Kirkwood Stables	12/09/22	Laurel Park	Maiden Special Weight
Leeloo	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/09/22	Aqueduct	Allowance
Now Is A Breeze	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/10/22	Woodbine	Maiden Special Weight
Bringer of Rain	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/11/22	Woodbine	Allowance
Creative Copy	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/12/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Beverly Park	McCutchen Tng Ctr	12/12/22	Mahoning Valley	Starter Allowance
Centre Court Champ	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/12/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Market Maven	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/13/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
We'll See	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/14/22	Penn National	Allowance
Shortlist	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/15/22	Turfway Park	Allowance
Lady Commissioner	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/15/22	Turf Paradise	Allowance
My Blue Eyes	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/15/22	Penn National	Allowance
Combat Queen	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/16/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Jayjaydee	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/16/22	Penn National	Starter Allowance
WUDDA U THINK NOW	Custom Care-D. Freyer	12/17/22	Aqueduct	Alex M. Robb S
GENERAL BANKER	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/17/22	Aqueduct	New York Stallion Series S
Clubman	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/18/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Award Wanted	Mason Springs	12/18/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Greys the Boy	Travis Durr Tng Ctr	12/19/22	Fair Grounds	Maiden Special Weight
Peach Perfect	Rentz Farm Tng Ctr	12/20/22	Penn National	Allowance
Sofia's Secret	Aiken – Cary Frommer	12/20/22	Parx Racing	Allowance

VIRGINIA

PAIR OF GRADE 1 STAKES WILL BE MOVED TO COLONIAL DOWNS

After approval from the American Graded Stakes Committee, three internationally-renowned Thoroughbred stakes races will be moved to Virginia.

Those turf races will all be held at Colonial Downs on the same day — Saturday August 12. The Grade 1 Arlington Million, Grade 1 Beverly D. Stakes and the Grade 2 Secretariat Stakes will likely provide the biggest day of racing in Colonial Downs' history. The New Kent track opened in 1997.

The trio of stakes were headline events at Arlington International Racecourse each summer since 1981 until the track closed in 2021. The Million and Beverly D were conducted last year during a unique one-day meet at Churchill Downs. The Secretariat Stakes was not held in 2022.

Colonial Downs has always emphasized grass racing over its 1 1/8 miles Secretariat Turf Course, the widest grass racing surface in the country. The Virginia Derby, currently a Grade 3 stakes with a $300,000 purse, had been the track's most prestigious race. In 2006 and 2007, the Derby featured a one million purse and Grade 2 status.

The relocation of these races follows approval from the Virginia Racing Commission for 27 live race dates at Colonial during the 2023 meet to be held July 13 through September 9. Colonial will modify its typical live race day schedule — which had been Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the last several years — to Thursday, Friday and Saturday with a 1:30 PM post time. The strategy behind the tweak is to make horse racing more accessible for Virginians and visitors from around the country. The 2023 meet will be the first under the operation of new owners, Churchill Downs Incorporated (CDI).

Capensis, a Todd Pletcher trainee ridden by Irad Ortiz, Jr., won the Grade 3 Virginia Derby in 2022.

"It is an incredible honor to continue the legacy of these exceptional races by hosting them in our Commonwealth," said Governor Glenn Youngkin. "I am deeply committed to growing our equine industry and as we work to revive the rich traditions of this sport in Virginia, these stakes races will accelerate our progress and ignite excitement for the fans."

"Churchill Downs Incorporated remains steadfast in our goal to increase the relevance of the racing product at Colonial Downs and in Virginia," said Bill Carstanjen, CEO of Churchill Downs Incorporated. "We appreciate the American Graded Stakes Committee for their approval of this move, which is an important step toward that goal in terms of wagering growth and entertainment value. We are also committed to increasing the flow of purse revenue from historical horse racing to allow for expansion of race dates in the future."

"We are grateful to Churchill Downs for the emphasis they have put on bringing world-class races to Virginia which give jockeys, breeders and trainers more opportunities to showcase the best of Virginia's equine industry," said Debbie Easter, President of the Virginia Equine Alliance. "Governor Youngkin's involvement and efforts to secure these three races in particular should be commended as we collectively work to ensure a bright future for horse racing in the Commonwealth."

Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of Secretariat's historic Triple Crown-winning season. The legendary horse will now be commemorated in the year of this milestone anniversary by debuting the stakes named in his honor on the

Secretariat Turf Course at Colonial Downs in the state where he was born, bred and trained to be a champion.

Secretariat was foaled a short 30-minute drive north of Richmond at The Meadow Farm in Caroline County. In 1973, as a three-year-old, Secretariat became the first Triple Crown winner in 25 years when he swept the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes in astounding fashion.

Buoyed by that feat, horse racing in Virginia remains a lively and lucrative industry that has benefitted the Commonwealth for decades. A 2021 Economic Impact Study prepared for the Virginia Equine Alliance showed the overall economic impact of Virginia's horse racing and breeding industry was estimated to be $542 million in 2019 and supported over 5,200 jobs. Additionally, the industry contributed an estimated $26.5 million in tax revenue to the state that same year.

Kate Tweedy, in front of Secretariat's image in the Colonial Downs entrance area. Various events celebrating the 50th anniversary of his Triple Crown campaign will take place this year.

Erin Brogan is with a Virginia-Certified '21 colt, one of four she tends to at her 90-acre farm in Edinburg, Virginia.

Five Pennsylvania-bred yearlings enjoy the view during their 6-month Virginia-Certified residency at Carl Hander's farm in Raphine, VA.

UPDATE NOTICE TO THE VIRGINIA-CERTIFIED AND VIRGINIA-BRED OWNER PROGRAM

Just before press time, several rule changes were announced to the highly successful Virginia-Certified Residency program — in which 4,000 horses have cycled through Virginia farms since its 2017 launch — in order to ensure its success in the years to come. The program has filled Virginia farms and training centers, while rejuvenating the infrastructure that supports those facilities.

The Certified program is funded by Historical Horse Racing (HHR) machines, which also funds other aspects of the state's racing program including purses for thoroughbred and standard bred racing and support for steeplechase racing. The Virginia Thoroughbred Association, in consultation with the VAHBPA and Virginia Equine Alliance (VEA), has established an annual budget of 4 million dollars for the Virginia-Certified and Virginia-Bred Owner/Developer Bonus programs.

The budget for these, along with the robust purses at Colonial Downs, position Virginia at the forefront of incentives for horsemen. The VTA is hopeful that with these changes, it can continue to pay bonuses for eligible wins in an amount similar to the bonuses paid in past years. The plan is to increase funding for these programs once Colonial Downs adds more HHR locations and machines.

The changes below will help the VTA stay within its budget, keeping in mind what is best for Virginia while still trying to be as fair as possible to everyone who participates.

In the Virginia-Certified program, developer bonuses will be paid for open race wins in the Mid-Atlantic region. A developer will no longer earn a bonus for a state-restricted win in any state. And beginning with foals of 2023, Certified developer bonuses will not be earned for any win in West Virginia.

In addition, Certified developer bonuses will not be earned for wins other than those at Colonial Downs during the annual meet in New Kent which runs from July 13 - September 9.

In the Virginia-Bred program — beginning with the foal crop of 2021 (two-year-olds in 2023) — the Virginia-Bred Owner's bonus of up to 25% earned for Mid-Atlantic region wins will be paid to the Developer — who is the person or entity that owns the horse when he or she makes its first start.

Note that these changes do not affect the award program in place for the breeders of registered Virginia-Breds. Virginia Breeders' Awards are funded separately and are not affected by the Certified program or the Virginia-Bred Owner's/Developer's program.

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Virginia Breeders Fund

West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter February 2023

West Virginia Stakes Scorecard 2022

By Jeff Gilleas

A good stallion should possess the Holy Trifecta.

Breeders often look for temperament, pedigree and conformation in their selection process.

Hopefully, he is then successful in the breeding shed, his offspring do well in the sales ring and he makes you money on the racetrack.

This time of year many farms are in the process of restructuring, using an out with the old, in with the new methodology, in an attempt to turn the tide of success in their direction; however locally we see there is still tremendous value tucked away in our aging giants.

Fiber Sonde, an unraced son of Unbridled's Song out of Silken Cat, and half-brother to impressive sire and champion Speightstown, entered stud in 2008.

Purchased in 2007 for $8,000, the Beau Ridge Farm rock star has stood his entire career for the fee of $1,000.

Over the years though, Fiber Sonde has made up for the loss of revenue for his modest stud fee, by owner John McKee privately selling progeny he has bred and raised.

Breeders Classic day at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races continues to be the best example of Fiber Sonde's dominance over his rival West Virginia stallions.

This year he was represented on Oct. 8 by Dash for Cash winner Penguin Power; Muad'dib victor in the Sam Huff Breeders Classic; Silky Serena successful in the Blue and Gold Stakes; and Fancy Concho runner-up in the Onion Juice Stakes.

Cyndy and John McKee hope to strike lightning in a bottle again with the recent addition of Cancun to their stallion band.

Comparisons to Fiber Sonde include: his exceptional pedigree and unraced status.

Date	*Race*	*Winner*	*Sire*
4.23.22	Original Gold	Boundtobebad	Windsor Castle
4.23.22	Confucius Say	No Change	Fiber Sonde
5.14.22	Coin Collector	Math Man Marco	Alliance
5.21.22	Its Binn Too Long	Silky Serena	Fiber Sonde
6.11.22	It's Only Money	Hypothesis	Algorithms
6.18.22	Fancy Buckles	Silky Serena	Fiber Sonde
7.23.22	Sylvia Bishop	The Sky is Falling	Cupid
7.23.22	Robert G Leavitt	Free Sailin	Freedom Child
8.26.22	Sadie Hawkins	The Sky is Falling	Cupid
8.26.22	Frank Gall	Fancy Concho	Fiber Sonde
9.17.22	Rachel's Turn	Lightnin Runner	Battalion Runner
9.17.22	Henry Mercer	Paymengold	Golden Lad
10.8.22	Breeders Classic	Muad'dib	Fiber Sonde
10.8.22	Cavada	Jessica	Juba
10.8.22	Distaff	Stowe Angel	Warrior's Reward
10.8.22	Onion Juice	C R's Mandate	Strong Mandate
10.8.22	Division of Tourism	Seneca Rocks	Summer Front
10.8.22	Lottery	Free Sailin	Freedom Child
10.8.22	Triple Crown Nutrition	Marz Express	West Coast
10.8.22	Vincent Moscarelli	Juba's Notion	Juba
10.8.22	Dash for Cash	Penguin Power	Fiber Sonde
10.8.22	Blue and Gold	Silky Serena	Fiber Sonde
10.29.22	Eleanor Casey	Marz Express	West Coast
11.5.22	My Sister Pearl	Navy Sword	Bodemeister
11.12.22	Randy Funkhouser	Muad'dib	Fiber Sonde
11.19.22	West Virginia Futurity	No Love for Juba	Juba

A son of Into Mischief, Cancun was sold as a weanling in 2019 for $550,000 at the Keeneland November Breeding Stock sale.

His sire is a three-time champion general sire who stands at Spendthrift Farm for $250,000.

◆

In 2022, the racing world's needle of popularity was shifted exponentially by Tapit's son Flightline, who at times appeared supernatural.

Closer to home, Juba, a son of Tapit owned by Taylor Mountain Farm, continues to impress breeders with his sons and daughters versatility, determination and soundness.

Campaigned throughout his racing career for Centennial Farms and trained by Jimmy Jerkins, Juba was a $250,000 Keeneland September Yearling acquisition.

To date, Cavada Stakes winner Hessica is his leading money-earner.

Owned, trained and bred by Kristy Petty, the good-looking dark bay filly, winner of the 2022 West Virginia Cavada Breeders Classic, is enjoying some downtime at the farm following her victorious performance.

With Juba's Notion stirring upset of Honeyquist in the Vincent Moscarelli Memorial Breeders Classic, it marked two wins on the program for James W. Casey's stallion, this one owned and trained by his son John.

One of my favorite Juba stories in 2022 was Snowy Juba Cat.

Owned by Tamera Bass, trained by her husband Curtis and bred at their humble farm, the ultra-consistent gray is out of Sheza Crafty Cat, who really started the ball rolling for team Bass on the breeding side of the ledger.

Fiber Sonde's son Last Print stands at O'Sullivan Farms.

In eight starts during her 4-year-old season in 2022, Snowy Juba Cat won four, with two seconds and a third while earning just over $101,000.

Sheza Crafty Cat is by Fiber Sonde and a virtual clone of her speedy daughter.

◆

In an informal discussion about West Virginia breeding, this comment was directed at me: "Fiber Sonde has undeniably been the most prolific sire in recent memory, but is yet to have a son carry on his productive legacy in the breeding shed."

To respond to this query, I sought out the oracle of local racing, Paul Espinosa Jr.

The Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races announcer, morning-line odds maker and social media mogul is a treasure trove of information.

In a matter of minutes Paul had recounted some of Fiber Sonde's best known sons, namely: Runnin'toluvya, Muad'dib, Penguin Power, Hidden Canyon, No Change, Fancy Concho, Dr Feelgood, Bullets Fever and Loving Touch.

They were wonderful racehorses, but I believe all are geldings.

Paul responded, "You are correct G-Man, however you might be leaving out a gifted sprinter and potential sire, Last Print."

I referred to the latest edition of the 2023 Mid-Atlantic stallion roster to confirm that Last Print, a son of Fiber Sonde out of Bootprints, by Richter Scale, was standing at O'Sullivan Farms for owner Javier Contreras.

Not as well known as many of his contemporaries, Last Print was a game competitor from 4½ to 6½ furlongs.

In 18 career efforts, he amassed eight firsts, three seconds and four thirds, while his win in the Gold Watch Overnight Stakes was a career best Beyer speed figure of 105.

According to O'Sullivan Farms, Last Print's first foals will be yearlings in 2023.

Javier Contreras revealed that Last Print's foals are exceptional, but only time will tell if they inherent their sire's quality attributes of speed and gameness.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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Chasing

Brought to you by the Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation

Not quite a race, not quite a 'chase, Foxhall Farm Cup Challenge considered a real throwback to the Gilded Age of steeplechase

By Betsy Burke Parker

In late October, 1920, Foxhall Keene initiated what remains possibly the most unique interpretation of jump racing ever seen in America, a team 'chase across the hunt country starting and finishing on his Foxhall Farm in Monkton, Maryland.

Teams of three representing a dozen recognized hunt clubs took to the course – a shotgun start, sort of a cavalry charge to tackle a stiff 4 1/2-mile course crossing the Elkridge Hunt's most challenging territory criss-crossed with stout line-fences and mature hedgerows. The first hunt to finish all three team members was declared the winner.

It was a sport imported from Great Britain and given an American twist. People loved it, competitors and spectators alike.

Radnor claimed the first Foxhall Farm Cup, the Pennsylvania club's name etched on the huge silver trophy and earning the right to host the 1921 race. Though the event no longer "moves around" to the home territory of whatever team happens to finish first that year, according to race historian Maryanna Skowronski, it has become an integral part of the early season training regimen for some of steeplechasing's most elite corps.

Reports called the inaugural event "invigorating" and "purely the nation's top sporting 'chase," but by all accounts competitors were strung out across the countryside as they negotiated walls and ditches, rail jumps and natural hedges, stream crossings and miles of open pastureland.

Foxhall Keene and the Foxhall Farm Cup

Owner of Andor Farm – the most recent name of the former Foxhall property, Laura Pickett says "there were a lot of fallers in that first race. They were taking the shutters off the house to use as stretchers for the injured riders."

Long gone is the shotgun start, today's Foxhall Farm Cup an important and anticipated launch to the American steeplechase season – more specifically, mid-Atlantic timber racing and, even more narrow focus for horses aimed at Maryland's big timber. The race is open to horses and riders "that have fairly hunted." Some competitors are strictly foxhunters, of course, that aren't moonlighting as steeplechasers, but more are steeplechasers that hunt for fitness.

"The winners really gallop the course, the entire course," Pickett says, part of the unique nature of the format being that trainers can give orders to riders to "take it easy" with less experienced horses. "It depends on the horse."

Last year's winners, representing the hosting Elkridge Harford Hunt Club won in 8:49.

Meet Foxhall Keene

You've got to admit it: He's got the greatest first name – Foxhall Keene, but his nickname's even better: Foxy (in some news stories spelled "Foxie") to his friends and family.

Foxhall Keene made quite a name for himself as an American sportsman who achieved the highest levels in a number of games. He was an avid foxhunter on two continents, an Olympic champion, polo's first 10-goaler, a U.S. Open level tennis player and golfer and a championship racecar driver in the early era of auto racing.

Foxhall Parker Keene (1867-1941) was born in San Francisco to Sarah Jay Daingerfield and James Robert Keene. His father was president of the San Francisco Stock Exchange but moved his family to New York City in the 1870s.

Foxhall Keene studied at Harvard, and there his athleticism took center stage. He was quarterback on the varsity football team, a top baseball player, golfer, tennis player and squash star. He took up polo in college, representing the U.S. in an international tournament in 1886. Steeplechase horseman, Tommy Hitchcock, was team

captain.

Keene was the first 10-goal rated polo player – earning the rating in 1888 and holding there for 14 years. He was rated a 9 for another 16 years. Keene was on the polo team that won gold at the 1900 Paris Olympics. He was inducted posthumously into the U.S. Polo Association Hall of Fame in 1992.

Keene hunted with the old Rockaway Hunting Club in Nassau County, New York, moving to Maryland, and with John Rush Street helping found the Harford Hunt (now Elkridge Harford Hunt Club.)

He purchased what became Foxhall Farm in 1918 from Mrs. Charles H. Street.

In horse racing, Keene's homebred mare, Chorus, was sixth in the 1908 English Grand National, a race won by California-bred Rubio. Keene's Precentor, born like Chorus at the Keene family's Castleton Farm in Lexington, Kentucky, led for most of the 1911 National but pecked badly at the third-from-home and lost his rider. Keene was overwrought, calling the mishap "the worst piece of racing luck that ever befell me."

He regularly kept company with the nation's elite, gun-hunting with Teddy Roosevelt and counting moguls Willie Vanderbilt and William Randolph Hearst as friends.

Keene fell from grace with poor investment choices in the 1920s, like his father losing his entire fortune. Unlike his father, Foxhall Keene never regained his footing. He moved into a relative's home in Quebec, leaving a rollicking account of his life in an autobiography, "Full Tilt" but dying almost penniless in 1941.

Meet the 2022 Hosts

Foxhall Keene's Foxhall Farm was also known as Briarfields and Loafer's Lodge. It is now called Andor Farm.

Andor Farm owner Laura Pickett grew up near the historic property. She remembers riding her ponies across the land as a child.

"I love this farm, I love the history of this farm," she says, owner of the 130-acre farm more than 20 years. She and husband Taylor bought it from the estate of the late Michael Wettach, who had inherited the estate from his Guggenheim ancestors. "You know, I'm by far the most boring owner of this property, but it's obviously an honor to be the keeper of this legacy, and I want to be a responsible steward of the history of the Foxhall Cup."

2022 Foxhall Team Chase winning riders Teddy Davies, Theresa Dimpfel and Ashton Williams. *©Robert Keller*

She recalls one night after they bought the place, sitting around the table with steeplechase horsemen Turney McKnight and Tom Voss and saying how fun it would be to bring the Foxhall Farm Cup back to the former Foxhall Farm.

"I told them, if you guys (riders representing Elkridge Harford Hunt Club) win the Foxhall Farm Cup back, I'll build – re-build, the original course and host the race."

In 2005, an Elkridge Harford team of Blair Waterman (now Wyatt), Turney McKnight and Paddy Neilson rode like the wind to capture the cup. Friends, neighbors and supporters of the plan to replicate the 1920 course got to work. The hunt hosted the Foxhall Farm Cup Team Chase in 2006, possibly the first time it had been back at the original property, over what Pickett calls "pretty close to the same" as the original course.

Andor Farm and the Elkridge Harford Hunt Club hosted the Team Chase in 2021 and 2022.

Meet the 2023 Hosts

Several years ago the Green Spring Valley Hounds, Mr. Stewart's Cheshire Foxhounds and Elkridge Harford Hunt Club agreed to host the Foxhall Team Chase on a rotating basis, moving every two years to a new hunt territory so no one hunt carries the burden of hosting for many years in a row.

The 2023 Foxhall Team Chase returns to the Green Spring Valley this year with trainer Willie Dowling and amateur owner/rider Justin Batoff taking the reins as Race Co-Chairs.

With the assistance of Sheila Fisher (MFH) and Jack Fisher, an inviting course has been designed to appeal to both steeplechasers and foxhunters alike. Just shy of 4 miles and featuring 22 fences, the course meanders through the heart of Green Spring Valley's home country, with the start and finish located at Steeplechase owner and Green Spring Valley Hounds member Jay Griswold's Wits End Farm.

Race organizers are delighted to announce the return of the Full Cry Cup, an optimum time division, which promises to be highly competitive amongst the ranks of the various mid-atlantic hunts.

Team Chase - what is it?

Foxhall Farm Cup Team Chase takes a page from the traditional spring hunter pace format, with a couple differences. There's just one division - fast-time, and three riders per team, not pairs.

Teams are sent out one at a time at three-minute intervals rather than the en masse start from earlier days of the 103-year-old event.

The course is mapped and flagged, carefully tended and safety-checked so that race trainers feel comfortable sending top horses to use Foxhall as an early-season prep race. Some jumps are built into line fences around the pastures of the farms the course crosses. Others are custom installed for the event.

Team members can go in any order they like, changing leaders throughout the four miles and jumping some of the wider fences upsides.

A starter gives a countdown for each team, and timers on a judges' stand record the finish time of the third team member to cross the finish line.

The winners really gallop, without the normal sort of "steadying" at the fences as in the hunt field. Other teams take more time to use the event as a schooling experience, checking back and setting up for each jump before moving on between fences.

A second division, an optimum time division that competes for the Full Cry trophy, runs on some years. Optimum time is the average of all the times throughout the day. Riders in the modern Foxhall 'chase wear hunt attire; in the old days, they wore racing silks, three identical for each three-person team.

— Classifieds —

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— Looking Back —

75 years ago

■ A bombshell was tossed in the lap of Maryland racing when the 1948 racing dates of the three New Jersey tracks were announced. To the astonishment of all and the detriment to Havre de Grace, dates from mid-April to Decoration Day (Memorial Day) were allocated to Garden State Park. The Maryland calendar thus "suffered alterations due to the woeful conflict," with Bowie starting in March and Havre de Grace's second of two meets moving to 11 days in July (instead of the customary May dates).

■ Alfred G. Vanderbilt, whom writer Don Reed described "as a young man generally regarded as progressive in matters pertaining to the sport," was named a steward for The Jockey Club. Reed added: "That the Jockey Club should depart from an age-old policy of naming elderly and extremely conservative members as stewards will be taken as a good sign by most, and it is certain that anything coming before Vanderbilt in his new post will be regarded in the light of the modern trend rather than that of any ancient theories of governing the game."

■ S. Bryce Wing was elected president of the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association. Wing had been a member of the board of stewards, was the organization's treasurer, and chairman of its Hunts Committee.

Wing would remain president through 1964. After his death in 1975, the Maryland Hunt Committee honored his legacy with the S. Bryce Wing Award, "given to those who have made an outstanding contribution to Maryland timber racing."

■ Statistics of all stallions standing in Maryland in 1948 that had produce race in 1947 were printed courtesy of *The Blood-Horse*. Of the 63 stallions reported, 35 had runners. It was noted that with 750 Thoroughbred mares in Maryland and roughly another 100 coming from out-of-state for service, "it will be seen that a good many stallions will have extremely light books." The great sire *Challenger II outdistanced nearest rival Discovery and the aging Jack High, to lead the state's sires.

■ David Sterett Gittings, "the dean of Maryland horsemen," died at 87. Totally deaf since a small child, Gittings was a founder and past president of the Association of Maryland Horse Shows, secretary of the old Patapsco Hunt, witness to the first Preakness at Pimlico and the second Dixie Stakes, and a member of the Maryland Horse Breeders' Association from its inception. The oldest director of the Maryland Jockey Club at the time of his death, having served on the board since the first World War, Gittings was honored in 1938 when Pimlico named a stakes for him, the first honoring a living person.

50 years ago

■ John and Kitty Merryman, who grew up with horses and passed their knowledge and interest to their six children, had a rising star in their stable. Four-year-old Twixt, a daughter of Restless Native out of Eveleen foaled at the couple's The Orebanks in Sparks, Md., and owned in partnership with Mrs. John Franklin, had won eight of her 21 starts (including three stakes). She was trained by the Merrymans' oldest daughter, Katy Voss.

A two-time Maryland-bred Horse of the Year (1973 and 1974) and four-time divisional champion, Twixt retired in 1975 as Maryland's all-time money-winning mare ($619,141) and won more stakes, 18, than any Maryland-bred in history. She was inducted into the Maryland Thoroughbred Hall of Fame's inaugural class in 2013.

■ Thornmar Farm, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Thor Ramsing and their daughter Cynthia Ramsing, started as a dream during a backstretch conversation in Saratoga in 1970 and became reality when it opened for the 1973 breeding season. The idea for the farm was to combine the talents of Dr. Thomas Bowman, P. Richard Goode, Doug Small Jr. and Cynthia to run a Thoroughbred operation, focusing on the Maryland Fund purses. The Chestertown, Md., property, purchased in January 1972, opened with new barns for stallions (four stalls) and broodmares (28 stalls).

Cynthia and husband Charles McGinnes have had considerable success, including standing Breeders' Cup sire Horatius, and being named MHBA Breeder of the Year in 2004 .

■ When Marian Bender won Bowie's Grade 3 Virginia Belle Stakes, the filly's foster mother was cheering her on. Phoebe Berman, wife of Edgar Berman, helped raise the Bold Monarch filly at the couple's Fernwood Farm (in Brooklandville, Md.). "The filly's dam, Appealable, died a month after Marian Bender was foaled," said Edgar Berman. "My wife immediately adopted the filly. If I hadn't put my foot down she would have kept the foal in our bedroom."

■ Bold Victor, sold privately to Nathan Scherr as a yearling for $2,000 after his previous owner (who paid $4,500 at the 1971 Eastern Fall Yearling sale) thought the colt was unsound, captured the Francis Scott Key Stakes at Bowie to give his sire, Bonita Farm's Bold Monarch, his second stakes winner of the year from his second crop.

Bold Victor added the Grade 3 Pimlico Stakes that spring, was named Maryland-bred champion 3-year-old colt and retired with 11 top-three finishes in 16 career starts.

■ Writer Lucy Acton profiled Dr. Patricia Owens, the first female veterinarian to build a practice at Maryland racetracks. A horsewoman since childhood, Owens started as a veterinarian at Delaware Park in 1964, but she didn't always have veterinary medicine in her plans. Originally a housewife, she decided to pursue becoming a vet after leaving home and moving to California.

25 years ago

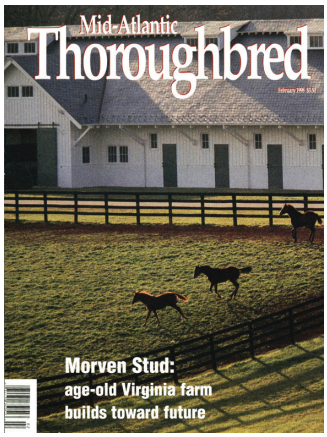
■ Historic Morven Farm, an interlocking array of pastures and woods in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Charlottesville, Va., was basically reborn under the 10-year ownership of billionaire businessman John Werner Kluge. In addition to cattle and crops over its 8,500 acres was a commercial breeding establishment with approximately 25 high-class broodmares.

Morven, tracing back to 1730, became a noted Thoroughbred nursery under the proprietorship of Whitney Stone, who inherited the farm from his father in 1941. The Stone consignments at the Saratoga Yearling sales spanned 50 years, and in 1978, set a record for the most expensive yearling sold at that sale – $800,000 for a colt by Nijinsky II out of homebred Shuvee, a multiple champion who was inducted into the National Hall of Fame in 1975.

■ A preliminary proposal made by New Jersey track executives for a regional circuit was considered a non-starter for horsemen in Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania. The idea was to create a circuit that would cut down the fierce competition for horses, which creates short fields and a weak gambling product during the peak summer and fall meets at Mid-Atlantic tracks. The proposal would see New Jersey maintain the status quo, while the dates in the surrounding states would be slashed.

■ In December, the Virginia Racing Commission warned Colonial Downs that it was reviewing the process for revoking or suspending the track's license due to a long list of problems. Betting fell far short of projections, Norglass Inc. (the track's general contractor) filed five liens alleging nearly $12 million in unpaid bills, Colonial Downs lost off-track betting parlor elections in three cities, and the track's temporary occupancy certificate lapsed. Those and other issues caused the track's stock value to plummet.

"The perception of Colonial Downs and the reality of Colonial Downs are very different," said the track's lawyer, James Weinberg. "Colonial Downs is in solid shape; there's a perception it is not."



■ Mid-Atlantic-based Edgar Prado became the fourth jockey in history to record 500 wins in a single season, hitting 535 by year's end, as well as recording his 3,000th career victory at North American tracks. "Prior to '97, recognition of Prado's exploits was largely confined to the Mid-Atlantic area, specifically Maryland," wrote Bill Mooney. "But what he accomplished this past season has made him a jockey of national import."

An Eclipse Award winner in 2006, Prado was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2008. Through 2022 he had 7,119 wins, eighth all-time.

10 years ago

■ The torch of the oldest Eclipse Award winner passed to Flatterer, after 34-year-old Lord Avie died in his paddock at Blue Ridge Farm in Upperville, Va., in December. In January, Flatterer turned 34.

Lord Avie, a son of Maryland stallion Lord Gaylord, was the champion 2-year-old of 1980 when on the board in all 10 starts, five Grade 1s, including victories in the Champagne and Young America stakes. Also a Grade 1 winner at 3, he had an equally successful stud career, siring 78 stakes winners, including two international champions, while standing at Spendthrift and Lane's End in Kentucky. He moved to Blue Ridge in 2002 after being pensioned.

Four-time steeplechase champion and Hall of Famer Flatterer made his debut on the flat at Aqueduct in 1982 at age 3, won his first jump start the following year, and raced through age 7. The Pennsylvania-bred resided at owner/breeder Bill Pape's My Way Farm in Unionville, Pa.

Flatterer lived on for more than a year, dying in April 2014 at 35.

■ Jim Casey had won bigger races in his long and distinguished career as a trainer, owner and breeder, but winning the Eleanor Casey Memorial Stakes at Charles Town – named after his late wife and partner in the racing business – was special. Having never started a runner in the race, he won it with Queen'o'daball, one of four 2-year-old fillies in the eight-horse field representing a Casey family member. Casey fillies took the top three spots.

Jim Casey passed away Jan. 8 at the age of 92. See editorial on page 24.

■ Seven-pound apprentice Trevor McCarthy won four races for four trainers at Laurel Park on Jan. 1 to kick off 2013. The 18-year-old son of retired jockey Michael McCarthy (a winner of 2,907 races in a long career in the region), Trevor had his sights on adding his name to the list of Eclipse Award-winning riders who cultivated their careers in Maryland.

McCarthy was an Eclipse Award finalist for apprentice rider, losing to Drayden Van Dyke. Over the past decade McCarthy has ranked in the top-10 three times by wins for a year, and has more than 1,770 total. Now based in New York, he recorded his first Grade 1 win aboard Highland Chief (Ire) in 2022 before being sidelined by injury late in the year.

■ E Dubai, who stood at Northview PA in Peach Bottom, was the sire of Fort Larned, the richest runner in North America in 2012 (with $3,598,455), and Winning Dubai, who tied as North America's winningest runner, with 10 victories from 20 starts (all in Puerto Rico).

All-Star Cast

The Boniface family (left) and Bonita Farm staffers took a moment during the winter of 1973. The 118-acre farm near Bel Air, Md., had seven barns, a half-mile training track and separate residences for the families of farm owners Bill Boniface (also the racing editor of the Baltimore *Sunpapers*) and his son Bill. Bonita employed 15-20 people and stood Maryland's leading sire of the early 1973 season Bold Monarch. Relocated to Darlington and expanded to 400 acres, Bonita and the family are still part of the region's Thoroughbred industry.

Walter M. "Skip" Ball was an award-winning staff photographer for *Maryland Horse* magazine from the mid-1960s to the late 1980s. His children donated his work to the Maryland Horse Breeders Association several years ago, and the photographs are part of the Maryland Horse Library as the Skip Ball Collection. In the next stages of our archiving projects, these films and slides will be digitized to preserve this gifted photographer's legacy.

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Into Mischief – Nerfertiti, *by Speightstown* | *$5,000 LF*

- **Only Graded SW by INTO MISCHIEF in the Mid-Atlantic/ Northeast**
- **Multiple GSW of $802,780**
- **Graded SW at 2**
- **$550,000 2-Year-Old**
- **First Foals Arrive in 2023**

1ST
Phoenix S.-**G2** defeating Champion Sprinter **WHITMORE**, Belmont's Futurity S.-**G3**, Gold Fever S., Bensalem S.

2ND
Woody Stephens S.-G2 (now G1), Amsterdam S.-G3 (now **G2**, **100 Beyer**), etc.

4TH
Breeders' Cup Sprint-**G1** (**104 Beyer**, defeating **FIRENZE FIRE**), H. Allen Jerkens S.-**G1**, etc.

FULL OR HALF SIBLINGS INCLUDE:
GATE RUNNER (4yoc by Arrogate, a $560,000 yearling and MSW winner at Churchill last fall); 2YO full sister; & yearling 1/2-brother by Horse of the Year Authentic (by **INTO MISCHIEF**)

Out of a stakes-placed daughter of Champion Sprinter and Leading Sire **SPEIGHTSTOWN**. Second dam is multiple GSW **CLEARLY A QUEEN** ($504,532)

BY INTO MISCHIEF
Champion Sire 2019, 2020, 2021, and **2022** (by Earnings - $28+ million, BTWrs - 27, BTHs - 62, GSWrs – 17, & GSHs - 36, incl. **LIFE IS GOOD** (3x G1SW in 2022)

HIS SONS AT STUD INCLUDE:
PRACTICAL JOKE (G1 SW at 2 & 3) - 2nd Leading Second Crop Sire; sire of 2022 Frizette S.-G1 winner **CHOCOLATE GELATO**

AUTHENTIC (Horse of the Year) - #1 First-Crop Weanling Sales Sire by average with $242,692, incl. top prices of $575,000 colt & $300,000 filly

AUDIBLE (G1 SW/Classic Placed) - 2nd Leading Freshman Sales Sire with yearlings for $725,000, $675,000, $575,000, etc.

New for 2023: **MANDALOUN** – G1 SW of $2 Million

Northview STALLION STATION

NEW FOR 2023

TRUE VALOUR (IRE)

Kodiac (GB) – Sutton Veny (IRE),
by Acclamation (GB) | $3,000 LF

Multiple Graded SW of $690,237
By a Perennial Leading 2YO Sire
and Grandson of DANEHILL

- Multiple Graded SW of $690,237
- Won/Placed in Graded Stakes Six Straight Years
- Won/Placed in 16 Stakes, Winning Five From 5 1/2 Furlongs to One Mile
- Ran 100+ Beyers at Three Different Distances

AT TWO
Placed in two of three starts, incl. runner-up a nose to War Front's **G1** SW LANCASTER BOMBER

AT THREE
Won/placed in four stakes, incl. defeating older horses and multiple GSWs **winning** Curragh's one mile Celebration S., on a yielding course; **2nd** Solonaway Boomerang S.-**G2**, beaten a half-length to Keeneland **G1** SW SUEDOIS

OTHER STAKES WINS INCLUDE:
Santa Anita's City of Hope Mile S.-**G2** (**101 Beyer, in 1:32 4/5**)
Thunder Road S.-**G3** defeating **G1** SW/millionaire RIVER BOYNE (IRE)
Leopardstown's Ballycorus S.-**G3** carrying 135 lbs.

IN THREE STARTS IN 2022:
1st King T. Leatherbury S. off a 13-month lay-off
2nd Saratoga's Troy S.-**G3** (**100 Beyer**), by a head to 2021 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-**G1** winner GOLDEN PAL
3rd Jaipur S.-**G1** (**101 Beyer**), a length to three-time **G1** SW CASA CREED

By KODIAC
Perennial Leading 2-Year-Old Sire
and son of the Legendary DANEHILL
Champion European Sire of 2YOs – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Champion European Sire by Winners – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

IN 2022:
World's Top Sire of 2-Year-Old Winners with 46 (as of 11/12/22), Top 10 Leading European General Sire, 12 SWs, 4 G1 SHs

LIFETIME:
Sire of 83 SWs, 37 GSWs, of which 24 are 2YO GSWs, incl.
CAMPANELLE (IRE) – Champion 2YO filly, 2x G1 SW
BEST SOLUTION (IRE) – Champion and 3x G1 SW, 1st foals are yearlings in 2022
HELLO YOUMZAIN (FR) – won Royal Ascot's Diamond Jubilee S.-G1, Betfair Sprint Cup-G1, etc. 1st foals arrive in 2022

AND SUCCESSFUL SIRE OF SIRES
Five Sons Have Sired Group Winners to date, incl.
ARDAD (IRE) – 2021 Leading First Crop Sire in England and second in Europe
KODI BEAR (IRE) – three G1SHs and Top Five Leading 2nd Crop Sire in Europe in 2021

> **HE DISPLAYED MORE SPEED** than any horse I have ever trained."
>
> **Graham Motion**

HIS FIRST BOOK OF MARES INCLUDES:
Allwewantforxmas - SP dam of SW Spun Glass and SP Xmas Surprise, i/f to Caravaggio

Do What I Say - SW, i/f to Great Notion

Questionoftheday - 2YO ALW winner, 1/2-sister to the dam of GSW Tell Your Daddy and 2022 SW Dynadrive, i/f to Mendelssohn

Classy Coco - multiple SW, i/f to Global Campaign

Everything Magic - Street Sense ALW, dam of 2022 Maryland Million 2YO SP Heldish, i/f to Independence Hall

Magger Bags - multiple SP Indian Charlie mare

Magician'squestion - ALW, 1/2-sister to the dam of GSW Tell Your Daddy and 2022 SW Dynadrive, i/f to Raging Bull (FR)

Magician's Vanity - SP full sister to multiple SW So Street, i/f to Raging Bull (FR)

Blazing Star (GB) - Juddmonte Farm bred by Dark Angel (IRE), maiden mare

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